

TURRET HEATS UP

O-Week acts provide mediocre performance ... **PAGE 20**

YOUNG AND DOE-EYED

Ajax natives win Shinerama bid for Cord interview ... **PAGE 12**



Volume 47 Issue 5

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2006

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Hawks fall off perch

DAN POLISCHUK
SPORTS EDITOR

In front of 2,090 fans at University Stadium this past Saturday, Laurier's football team did something

that it hasn't done in almost two full seasons: lost.

And aside from the fact that the 29-19 defeat, at the hands of the visiting Ottawa Gee-Gees, shattered a streak of victories that

included 12 straight wins and 22 consecutive victories against OUA opponents, it also forced Laurier off its perch as the top team in the province.

This fact was punctuated by the

Gee-Gees' dominating defensive performance in the second half of the Hawks' home opener.

The visitors found themselves down 9-3 at the break thanks to the Hawks' own energetic effort

in shutting down any of their early drives. Three field goals by kicker Chris Mamo were all WLU could counter with, though, in another

- SEE DEFEAT, PAGE 6



HITTING A WALL - WLU receiver Andy Baechler can't find any room to manoeuvre through the Ottawa defenders, which frustrated the Hawk offence throughout Saturday's home opener.

UW arrests raise WLU concerns

Laurier groups under scrutiny after terrorism link

ARLA LATTO-HALL
INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

Following the recent arrest of three University of Waterloo graduates and one UW undergraduate in late August by a joint RCMP-FBI task force, both Laurier's international co-op policies and financial tracking within Campus Clubs have come under scrutiny.

The four were arrested in the

United States in late August and are charged with "conspiring to provide material support and resources to a foreign terrorist organization and related offenses," after being allegedly caught trying to buy firearms from an undercover FBI agent in New York state. The United States Department of Justice claims that the firearms

- SEE AUDIT, PAGE 10



A SPIRALLING EVENT - 'Waterloo Suresh' is led away from a Kitchener courthouse. He is one of four UW students that allegedly supported the Tamil Tigers.

Social work finally settled

Faculty relocates to Kitchener's downtown core

MIKE BROWN
NEWS EDITOR

Last Thursday, while undergrads continued to get used to life in Waterloo, a smaller crop of elder Laurier students settled into their new digs one city over.

The Lyle S. Hallman faculty of social work officially opened to 300 students at a revived location in downtown Kitchener - the former St. Jerome's High School on Duke St., just behind Kitchener City Hall. Though the administration raves about the new building, they are in some ways just pleased to have somewhere to call home

after years of shuffling between the seminary, Peters building, and the Aird building.

"It's been the Faculty of Social Work's vision to have its own space on the main campus and, being as land-locked as we are, that didn't seem to be fruitful after a few attempts," explained Michele Breault, associate director of university development within the faculty. "This came up as an opportunity. It wasn't really sought out."

Indeed, the faculty moving to the downtown seems to have

- SEE FSW, PAGE 2

THE CORD WEEKLY

— The tie that binds since 1926 —

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"So I could actually get off to Dylan!"

An excited Joe Tuccillo, referencing Kate Blanchett playing the decrepit old singer-songwriter in an upcoming movie

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COLOPHON

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Preamble to The Cord Constitution

The Cord will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly.

The Cord believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in a matter of controversy.

The staff of The Cord shall uphold all commonly held ethical conventions of journalism. When an error of omission or of commission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged promptly.

When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible.

Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be avoided by all staff.

The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around it, and so The Cord will attempt to cover its world with a special focus on Wilfrid Laurier University, and the community of Kitchener-Waterloo, and with a special ear to the concerns of the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. Ultimately, The Cord will be bound by neither philosophy, nor geography in its mandate.

The Cord has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the paper, and through The Cord's contact with the student body.

The Cord will always attempt to do what is right, with fear of neither repercussions, nor retaliation. The purpose of the student press is to act as an agent of social awareness, and so shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

Classes underway

The new faculty of social work has finally gained its own facility off campus

- FROM FSW, COVER

Kitchener mayor Carl Zehr as excited as anyone. At a brief ceremony where he received an artist's sketch of the renovated building from Dr. Lesley Cooper, the new dean of social work, Zehr described the faculty as a "key pillar" of the knowledge cluster the City of Kitchener is seeking to cultivate, one that will also include the University of Waterloo's Health Sciences campus, which moves to the downtown next year.

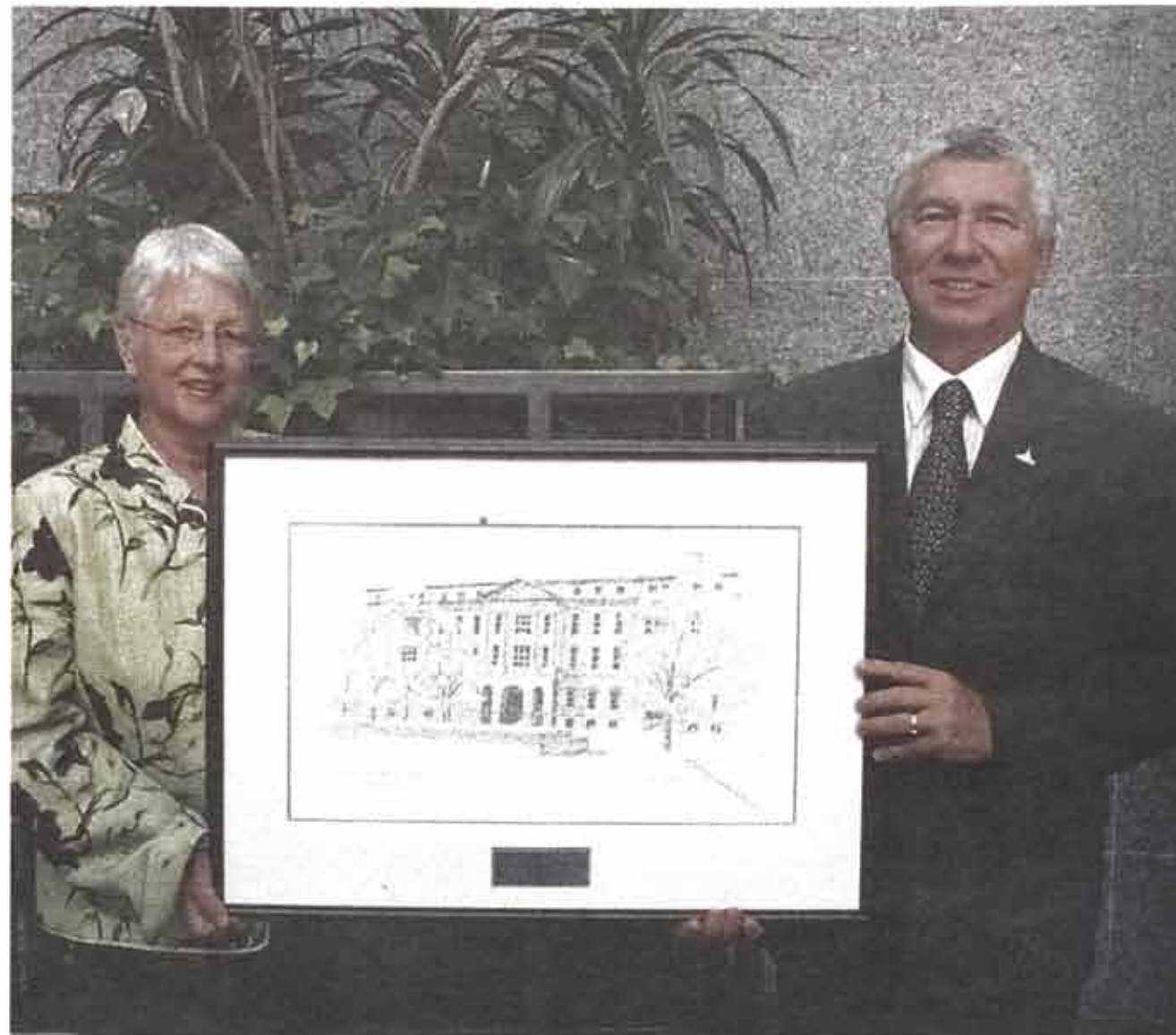
The longtime Kitchener mayor added his confidence that the university presence would play a key role in revitalizing a downtown that most students avoid at all costs.

But these aspiring social workers do anything but avoid the downtown.

Dr. Carol Stalker, who graduated from Laurier's MSW program in the mid-70s and is now an associate professor, explains the air of excitement about the Kitchener location.

"Since social work is a profession that deals closely with the community, it seemed like a very good fit," she notes. "Our proximity to some of the agencies in downtown Kitchener will facilitate more collaboration and perhaps more partnership around both teaching and research."

Those agencies include a drop-in centre for aboriginal people, a



Sydney Heiland

SUPERSATELLITE - Mayor Carl Zehr and Dr. Lesley Cooper hold a rendition of the new Kitchener campus.

seven generations healing centre, an adult learning centre and a soup kitchen for the homeless, added Cooper.

The faculty's 128 new students had the chance to see these buildings, among other parts of the downtown core, on a walking tour as part of orientation last Thursday.

And what the students saw on this day left them by and large very impressed, though a few voiced concerns regarding access to student services, given the distance from Laurier's main campus.

Cooper was quick to dismiss this concern, however. "We're making arrangements to connect the services and our students," she assured, citing among other things the impressive library located directly at the St. Jerome's campus.

And, as her colleague Breault noted, when you move from a location that's 10,000 square feet to one four times that size, the benefits far outweigh the costs.

Raj Shinde, a London native new to the master of social work program, agreed. "I, for one, like the intimate feel of being away

from the main campus," he explained. "It allows me to integrate more with my fellow colleagues and not get so overwhelmed with everything going on."

Classes are now underway for the school's 128 new students, a crop which includes five PhD students and an inaugural class of 18 for the school's innovative one-year MSW aboriginal field of study program.

Anyone wishing to see what WLU's newest campus is all about is invited to a public open house at 3:45 pm on Thursday, September 28.

DAWB facelift still on track

Classes moved due to long-term construction

APRIL ROBINSON
CORD EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

One of the biggest and most central buildings on campus, the Dr. Alvin Woods Building (DAWB), is in the process of being gutted and renovated, a project that is expected to take until the end of 2007 to finish.

But Rob Vanderspek, a manager for Laurier physical resources, says that the DAWB renovations are on schedule and going well.

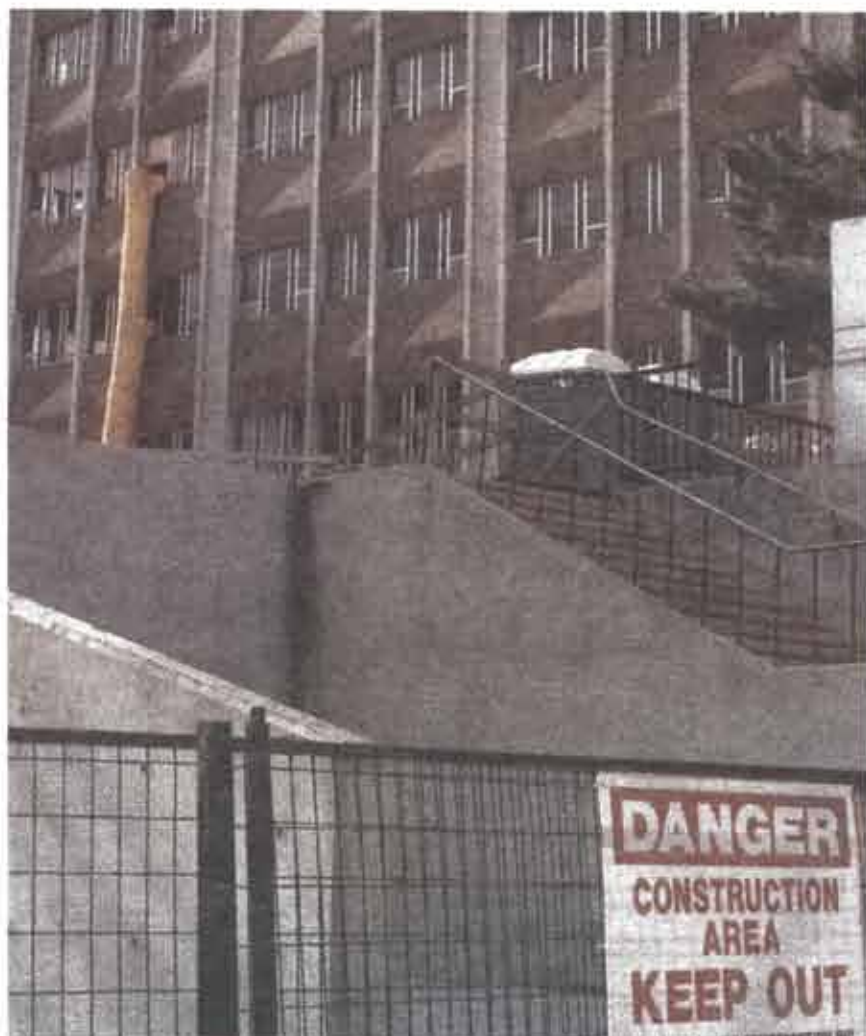
"Significant demolition is underway," he says. Contractors start at the top on the fifth floor of the building and work their way down. So far, demolition has

taken place on every floor but the first.

"One seems to always be going backwards in such a project, because such a mess from demolition has to occur before one starts to see progress with the new renovation work," says Vanderspek.

The project is expected to cost \$10.5 million dollars.

Classes have been moved to the Bricker Academic Building, St. Michael's Campus and the Northdale Campus while faculty offices have moved to the Aird building, Euler and Leopold residences, and 195 and 205 Regina Street.



Tony Ferguson

OFF-LIMITS - A familiar part of campus is now a construction area.

> VOCAL CORD

How did you react when you learned that the football team finally lost?



"I don't really know how it happened but I was shocked."

- Gogi Anand
Fourth Year Economics



"I was a little worried about Ottawa after I heard about the game against Guelph."

- Kevin Thomas
Third Year Business



"I wasn't really surprised, but I was hoping for better."

- Pat Dowling
Laurier Alumni Geography



"I was a little upset that [my friends and I] weren't able to be there to cheer them on."

- Rachal Vares
Fourth Year Business



"We'll still win the Vanier Cup."

- Yusuf Faqiri
Fourth Year Political Science

Compiled by Tony Ferguson, photos by Mike Brown

Shine goal shattered

This year's frosh surpass Shinerama goal by nearly \$60,000

LAUREN MILLET
CORD NEWS

Hundreds of students flooded the Laurier grounds last week, each with different expectations and potential opportunities to take advantage of.

After participating in a whirlwind of activities seeking to combine fun with learning the ropes of university life, the students ended the week with the main event: Shinerama.

Shine Day was an unquestionable success, resulting from the hard work of the volunteers of Wilfrid Laurier University's Student Union (WLUSU). Students raised \$86,114.07 that day, bringing the total for the week to \$160,397.53.

"This shattered the goal of \$106,106 and was the second highest figure in Shinerama's history," said April Detzler, coordinator of Orientation Week.

Throughout the week, the students remained focused on Shinerama and bringing hope to the lives of those suffering with Cystic Fibrosis.

The students were encouraged to simply "make a difference," said VP of Student Activities, Lindsay Fleming.

The purpose of this was not to place a number value on the event, but to bring it back to the roots of why Shinerama was originally created. "The first-years were given the objective to spread the sunshine," added Fleming.

During the week, little activities were set up to promote Shinerama and accumulate as much money as possible.

From barbeque lunches for the first-years, to selling candy necklaces, to the colour team auctions, everything was focussed around ending Cystic Fibrosis.

"This year, Bling Bling collected more money than any other year I can remember," stated Fleming. "It brought in over \$54,000, which shattered previous records."

Commenting on the week as a whole, Detzler said that the most popular events were The Price is Right, a day at Bingeman's sports park, the on-campus party and the academic sessions. The first-years, however, had their own outlook on the week's events.

"Everybody told me that it was going to be more fun than high school, but I didn't actually believe them, but it's been awesome," exclaimed first-year English student Jill Janyu.

Cheryl Strybosch, a first-year business student, said that she really liked Bling-Bling, and just generally "having all the



Sydney Holland

SHINE ON - Chase Handsaeme, Alex Stephen and Sagar Karri buff a jeep to raise funds for CF.

teams together in the [Athletic Complex]."

Not all of the students, however, were so thrilled with the set-up of the O-Week activities.

First-year business student Chris Carmichael gave a mixed review. "The talent show was really fun and the regatta games were cool, but it kind of feels like summer camp a bit, and the cheering is sometimes just overwhelming," he explained. "And the food sucks."

"The cheering is supposed to create positive interaction be-

tween the first-years and their Ice Breakers," countered Detzler. "It's supposed to get them pumped up and excited."

Kinesiology student Angelica Merocchi echoed Carmichael's concerns. "Our leaders made us so excited to be here," she acknowledged. "However, the first day, we were moving in and we were tired and anxious, but right away they have us come to all these meetings. They should give us a day to just move in and get our stuff organized and rest."

First-year biology and chem-

istry major Stacey Jackson also found a glitch in the O-Week organization. "When we were with our colour groups, waiting to go to the next event, we kind of just stood around," he said. "They tried to organize little activities, but they were always the same activities. I didn't like all the waiting around."

"We don't want to push the students," reasoned Detzler. "They need time in between the activities. It could just be personal preference as to whether they enjoy it or not."

Sessions well-received

Academic sessions
praised by both
students and faculty

TONY FERGUSON
NEWS EDITOR

Last week's mandatory Orientation Week academic sessions were welcomed by faculty and students alike. The overall response from the Laurier community was a positive one.

"We've been getting a lot of good feedback," says Mike Bodkin, a business teaching assistant and a recent Laurier grad. Bodkin led academic integrity sessions for business students in the Peters building last Tuesday.

As he explains, much of the material was just refreshing the students on what they had learned in high school but there were some valuable lessons.

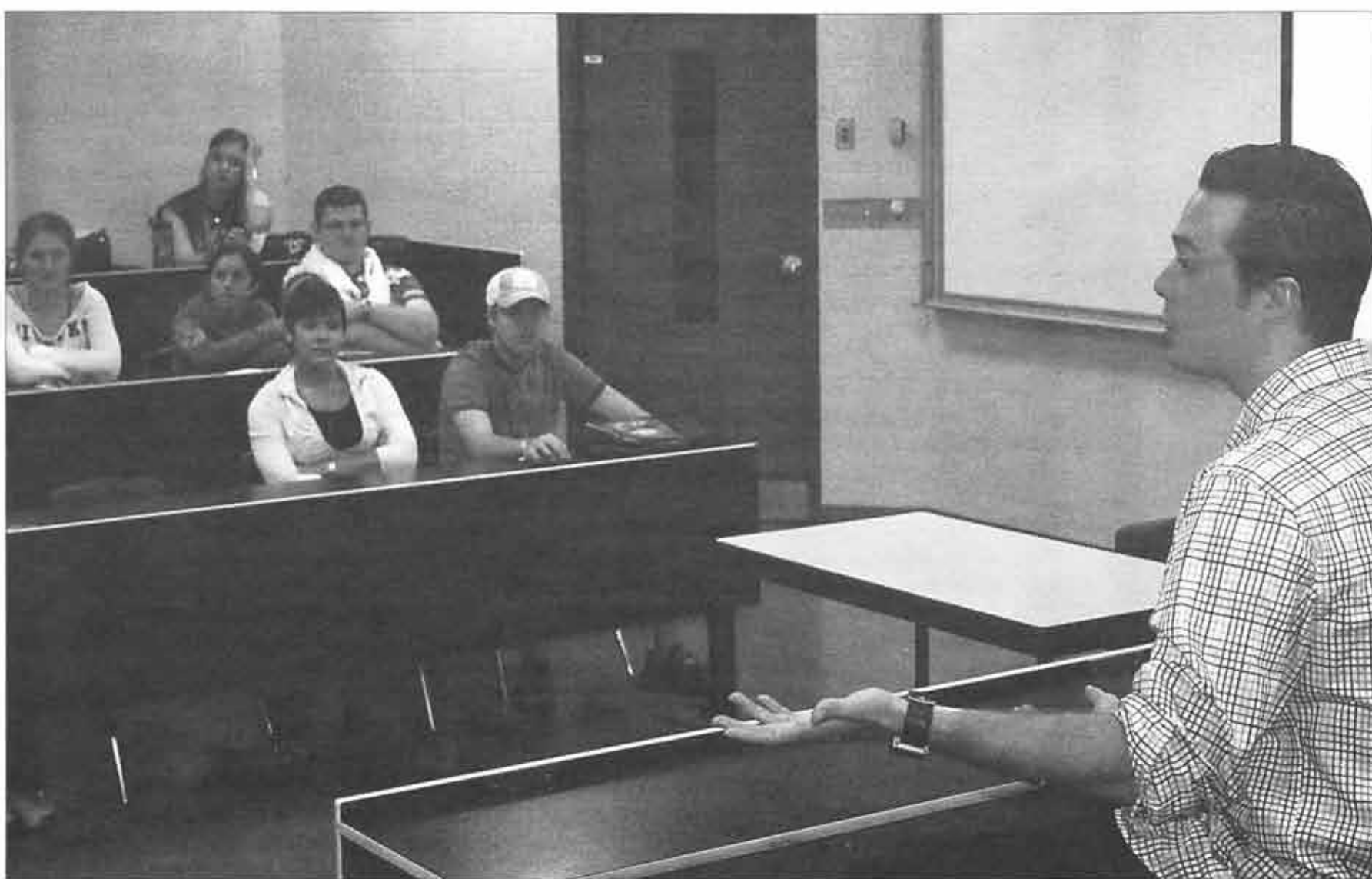
"A lot of people know what cheating is," he said, "but there are some things that they think are minor but they're not."

Bodkin pointed out that many students didn't know that re-using their own material from a previous class was a no-no.

"Our goal is that everybody coming in gets [this information] so that it's fair for everybody," said Dr. Sue Horton, vice president: academic, who lent a hand in implementing the sessions. The fairness theme was well-received by hard-working students who get frustrated with the similar grades of their cheating peers.

Some students also liked the sessions because of the image they present of the school.

"I think [the sessions] are a great thing for first-years because they give you some perspective as to how strict the university is," said Dana DeSimon, a first-year music and political science double major.



Tony Ferguson

GETTING THEIR SESH-ON - First year business students listen to graduate Mike Bodkin about their academic careers at Laurier.

For Chantelle Eisa, who is majoring in business and political science, the strictness is comforting. "Just to know how strict they are and that they do catch people," she says, explaining how this makes her feel reassured after putting a lot of work into an assignment.

"We wanted to get the message across that academic dishonesty is taken seriously," said Mark Baetz, who extended the mandatory sessions from business to all faculties this year.

During the sessions, the students were accompanied by Ice Breakers. Their role was to answer questions and stimulate discussion, which, according to Baetz, is very important for this subject.

"The more students dialogue,

the better," he said, explaining that the more students share their experiences and concerns, the more the message hits home.

The general positive response from students has made Dr. Horton very happy.

"It's not an easy topic to talk about but I'm glad the response to it was positive," she said.

The sessions were made mandatory for business students three years ago after a serious case of academic dishonesty. The faculty decided that implementing these sessions would be a positive way to deal with what had happened and in the years following, there were fewer cases of cheating reported.

Bodkin feels that providing such information is a major bene-

fit to new students. "I think a lot of them feel a little more confident about their academics," he said, explaining that once they know exactly what is allowed and what isn't, there won't be any confusion among students as to why they were punished for recycling their own work.

The sessions were organized into two portions. The first, a general academic information session, provided basic information about the faculty such as what kind of workload students can expect and who they can talk to if they need help with their assignments.

The second session was strictly focused on academic integrity and session leaders went over topics such as plagiarism and cheating.

The academic integrity sessions were led only by current students or recent graduates, people that students can relate to more. All profs were asked to leave before the sessions began.

As for actual cases of academic dishonesty, Baetz is planning on changing the format of the hearing process.

He plans on including more students on the academic integrity hearing panel, which hears the more serious cases of academic misconduct. The new panel contains several mechanisms to deter cheating. It is hoped that having more students on the panel will deter cheating through the fear of being shamed by fellow peers. Baetz believes that currently there is not enough of a deterrent for

Student surplus no problem

For some first-year students living off campus this year, the experience hasn't been a bad one

LENNA TITIZIAN
CORD NEWS

The over-acceptance of 600 first-year students for the 2006-07 school year could have ended in a residence accommodating fiasco. But according to a few off-campus first-year students, the experience has been quite positive so far.

"As of June 12, we were oversubscribed for residence by over 100 students," says Mike Belanger, director of Residence Services. "Luckily, by September 3, however, everyone who was guaranteed residence got in."

Of course, some sacrifices had

to be made. Residence Services opened up the property at 27 Bricker Avenue as a newly-leased building, which they are treating like a residence, don included.

For the most part, off-campus students have the same opportunities as those living on campus, thanks to the help of the Laurier Off-Campus University Students (LOCUS) group.

"We like to think of ourselves as a virtual residence," says Emily Murcar, a LOCUS coordinator for 2006-07. "We have virtual floors, with dons the students can call on for support, just like real residence."

As for complaints from students not receiving residence accommodations, LOCUS finds that they are rare. "A lot of students chose to live off-campus, either with other first-years, older friends attending school already, or with partners," says Murcar.

A group of first year students from LOCUS Virtual Floor Four agree. Andy Lau, Ryan Howard, and Nikhil Chopra have all ended up in LOCUS for different reasons, but so far, none of them are regretting their choice.

"I tried to get into residence, but I couldn't," says Howard. "I guess I applied too late. I just got a letter saying I wasn't in." Howard is still living at home in Kitchener and commuting.

For Lau and Chopra, who are at Laurier from Hong Kong and

India respectively, the choice to live off campus was one of convenience. As of a week ago, none of these students knew each other, yet now they get along like old friends.

"It's been great so far, we've met so many people, it's been awesome," Howard exclaims. "Fred, our don, sends us e-mails constantly letting us know what's up and what's going on."

Howard is emphatic about his time at Laurier thus far. "Honestly, being off-campus isn't as bad as everyone thinks."

"At first, I wasn't going to do O-Week at all. I wasn't going to join LOCUS. I figured it would suck because I wouldn't know anybody, but at the last minute I changed my mind, and it was the best decision ever."

NEWSINBRIEF

Call the OneCard

Thanks to a group of UW student entrepreneurs, Laurier students now have the option of adding money to their OneCard using their cell phones.

So far, not too many people have heard about the service, explain Simon Law and Razim Samy, two of Xtreme Mobility's founders.

Starting next week, students can activate the mobile option to their OneCards by texting "signup wlu" to MSGNOW. Xtreme Mobility will also be in the concourse next week to help students get setup.

Cost to students is generally \$1-2 to download the program that makes this text option possible, and then future costs align with the student's cell phone plan.

Laurier duo's ride for AIDS

Laurier students travel 7,000 km in 72 days on two wheels, a trip that was 'so much to digest'

LENNA TITIZIAN
CORD NEWS

If you ask two Laurier students how their summer went, they'll tell you tales of excitement mixed with desperation, exhaustion and physical stress, of narrowly missing being run over on the highway, of broken tires, broken spirits, and aching limbs – but most of all, a tale of hope for a better future.

Jason Shim and Kylie Hicklenton, a pair of senior arts students, biked across Canada this past summer, a journey that totalled over 7,000 km and 72 days. Their ambitious goal was to raise \$50,000 for World University Services Canada (WUSC), who will put the funds toward partnerships with organizations in Malawi, Africa, purchasing bicycle ambulances through the Uniterria Bike for AIDS program.

Shim and Hicklenton began their journey at the end of June, when they flew out to Vancouver to dip their bike wheels into the Pacific Ocean, and they returned home this past weekend.

"The first two weeks were the hardest, trying to get ourselves adjusted to the situation of biking six or seven hours a day," recounts Hicklenton. "We survived buttchafe, aching knees, sun stroke, heat, cold, mountains, rain, and a bunch of other things that you kind of get used to on a daily basis. Despite all of those things, I

actually had a lot of fun, and it is probably the best way to get a real sense of Canada's terrain."

"I'm still sort of unpacking in my head," says Shim about the experience. "I mean, it's just so much to digest. You see Canada on maps and stuff, you know there are the Rockies, and the plains, the Maritimes, but you can't appreciate how big those ranges are until you stare at them for eight to nineteen hours a day."

"People ask me, 'So, how was it?' and it's hard to describe," Shim continues. "I mean, it took us through this whole range of emotions – I was happy and motivated the entire time, because I had a specific focus. In the first two weeks, though, those were the most brutal ... doubt flashes through your mind. I was thinking, 'What the hell am I doing?! I'm in the Rockies and dying of exhaustion!' The 5,000 kilometre mark hit us in Kingston, and it was around there that it really hit home what we were doing. We're riding our bikes to save lives."

In Sub-Saharan Africa, where bicycles are the main mode of transportation in the predominantly rural communities, they really are the difference between life and death.

"I am 23 years old," Shim says, "and if I lived in a rural village in Malawi, I could expect to live another 14 years. If I had a child,

there is a one in four chance that they would not live to see their fifth birthday."

Through WUSC and Uniterria Bike for AIDS, \$120 will buy a bike and \$380 will provide a bicycle ambulance. "We're just trying to make a difference."

Along the way, the pair were able to attend a part of the youth pre-conference portion of the AIDS Conference that was held in Toronto in August.

"The youth pre-conference was a really amazing event," describes Hicklenton. "We just got to talk to so many people who were from Malawi and other countries in Africa who really explained the situation and told us how important the bikes and bike ambulances were in the communities. I think I gained a better understanding of how important it is to help with projects like these because they are sustainable and it is completely a community initiative."

"We were discussing the issues and talking with other like-minded people, which was really great at that point in the journey," adds Shim. "There was one delegate from India who was trying to make gay positive spaces in India where that's still taboo. It was really humbling to see their epic projects, protesting their respective governments, all the work they're putting into the AIDS cause."

"It was just a real honour to be among these leaders of tomorrow," adds Hicklenton.

The WUSC Bike for AIDS campaign gave Shim the chance to act on a dream he's had since high

school – to bike across Canada. While he never planned to bike specifically for AIDS, he's glad he was able to achieve his goal for such a good cause.

"I don't think most people have an appreciation for how widespread AIDS is," Shim muses. "The AIDS pandemic in Africa and Asia and elsewhere, it may not affect us directly in the here and now, but in 10-15 years it likely will. If you let it ravage half the globe, then what do you have left?"

Hicklenton agrees. When Jason's goal was announced at a WUSC meeting, she quickly said she would like to go along.

"It was one of those things that kind of popped out of my mouth without even thinking," she says. "At the back of my mind, it was something that I had always wanted to do but had never really voiced it, and to do it for the Bike for AIDS project legitimized the whole thing for me. I could do

the trip for a purpose and it was something that was meaningful to me."

"For the longest time I thought that this was a crazy thing, when people found out I wanted to bike across Canada, they thought that I was absolutely insane," Shim says. "I hope that maybe this will inspire people ... just remember that no matter how crazy your dream might be, keep on it, and don't give up ... because if I had written mine off, it wouldn't have happened."

The duo haven't had the chance to tally their proceeds but are confident that they have raised at least \$5000.

The pair will hopefully be sharing their story with other students soon, so watch the halls of Laurier for their names. To read more about their trip, or to make a donation, visit their website at <http://www.bikeacrosscanada.ca>.

Volunteer with The Friends Program

Volunteer a few hours weekly during the school day and make a life long difference to a child. Volunteers are matched by the Canadian Mental Health Association with children who need additional support at school. Friends operates in partnership with the local school boards and helps children 4 - 15 years.

Call 519-744-7645 ext 317



Jason Shim

SWEET RELIEF - Jason Shim and Kylie Hicklenton smile at the culmination of a charitable 72-day journey.

SEPTEMBER 15 - 24, 2006

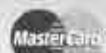
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Sydney Holland

MAN DOWN - Linebacker Yannick Carter gets a hold of Guelph quarterback Justin Dunk at the season opener. The Hawks' defence was something to be reckoned with last week.

Hawks drop to eighth

- FROM DEFEAT, COVER

slow start by quarterback Jamie Partington.

After adding three more points on another Mamo field goal, the offence of the fourth-ranked team from the nation's capital, started to click. So much so, that the team marched downfield on the following possession to the WLU 7-yard line with little opposition.

From there, highly talented quarterback Josh Sacobee floated a pass with pin-point accuracy to the back of the end-zone for his slotback Matt Edgeworth and a touchdown reception.

Following a fumble by Laurier's Will Northcote at the WLU 43-yard line on the Hawks' next offensive series, Ottawa capitalized with a first-down bomb by Sacobee to another slotback - Adam Nicholson - for a touchdown and the 17-12 lead.

Thereafter, Ottawa maintained a chokehold on any Laurier attempt to regain the lead. Instead, the Hawks would give up five more points before scoring a touchdown with 36 seconds remaining in the game.

Alas, the well-thrown 15-yard strike by Partington to Dustin Heap was nothing more than a flicker of hope as the Hawks would give up a TD on the ensuing onside kickoff attempt, setting up the final result.

Not surprisingly, it was the Hawks' consistent inability to get the ball moving on offence that did them in, something that was highly visible in their season-opener at the University of Guelph, in which they squeaked by with a 24-17 win in overtime.

After his first game as a starter and previewing the game against Ottawa, Partington noted, "We can't make all the mistakes we made today. We do that and we're not going to win the game."

And clearly they didn't, giving up four turnovers in their second game of the year, which included

"We should've played a lot better than we did ... but it hurts [having the streak end]."

- Ryan Lynch, Laurier runningback

two interceptions and a couple of fumbles.

After the loss, Ottawa's ball-tosser had nothing but praise for his team's ability to rally after a weak first-half performance.

"At halftime ... we settled down a bit. We looked each other in the eye and found that focus - that sense of belief ... That second half was probably our best half of foot-



#3 OTTAWA 29 - 19 #8 WLU

ball in a long time," said Sacobee.

Asked what it meant to lead the team, which ended Laurier's long win streak, Sacobee remained humble in his assessment.

"They're a tough team; it was a hard fought battle. The guys came out and made some big plays, and you have to against a team like this," he said. "They're very

strong, very competitive and very talented. They've got the credentials to show it with last year's Vanier Cup performance."

The loss by Laurier overshadowed another solid performance by their running back Ryan Lynch, who,

after putting up 113 yards on the ground against Guelph, surpassed the century mark again against Ottawa. Asked after the game how much it pained the team to have the streak end, Lynch did not hide his disappointment.

"We should've played a lot better than we did ... but it hurts [having the streak end]."

"They started sending a lot of

blitzes; more guys than we could handle. Our quarterback got really beat up, so we've got to make sure we can protect him next time.

"I think [Ottawa] showed over the last few years that they're one of the top teams. But I think for sure we'll be able to beat them [next time]. We just got to make sure we play like we know how ..."

Asked whether the loss will act as a motivator for the rest of the season, Partington had no doubt whatsoever.

"We have some work to do and we're definitely going to get it done," he commented, adding that the team has to "just forget about it; get in the film room and

see what we did wrong and make sure we're ready for next week against York and go from there."

"Like Baechler said in the huddle after the game: 'We never come into a season saying we have to be 8-0 in the regular season.' We just try to get better every game. If there's a loss in there, we've got to learn from it."

Surprisingly, Head Coach Gary Jeffries' comments after the game against Guelph really seemed to foreshadow the events that took place on the weekend.

"We may not always get it done, but we're always going to compete - right to the last tick on the clock. I think that's who we are."



#8 WILFRID LAURIER (1-1)



YORK (0-2)

Time: Saturday at 2:00pm

Location: York Stadium, York

Radio/TV: AM 570

Women stay undefeated

"Very promising group" continues to impress as it maintains a perfect record to start the 2006 OUA soccer campaign

LAUREN MILLET
CORD SPORTS

The Laurier Golden Hawks women's soccer team took to Alumni Field Sunday afternoon against the visiting York Lions. The young, energetic Hawks, bringing two wins and a draw into Sunday's game, faced a tough 1-0-2 Lions squad.

Immediately after kick-off, the ball was back and forth for the better part of the first 15 minutes. Near the end of a fairly evenly matched half, Catherine Nutt cleared a shot off the Hawks' goal line to keep the teams level at 0-0 going into the half time break.

When both sides returned to the pitch, the Lions offence came out storming. They fired shot after shot at the Hawks' keeper who remained solid for most of the game. A weakening Hawks defence left open a hole and the Lions took advantage and netted a quick goal. Almost immediately, the Hawks got the ball into the Lion's end and tied the game when a York defender scored on her own net. The Lions continued to outplay the Hawks but could not get another shot past the solid goal-keeping of Lindsay Owens. The final whistle blew a 1-1 draw.

"We were lucky. That's basically it. We were outplayed. We

had a couple chances, they had ten," said Coach Barry MacLean. "The goalie was tremendous. This was probably our worst performance. Nobody has beaten us yet so we'll just keep pulling in that direction."

This year, 65 girls attended the try-outs for women's varsity soccer. The goal was to re-build off of last year's disappointing showing. Therefore, choosing the best 23 ladies "was a very difficult process."

"There were very good players who didn't make the team and players from last year who didn't make the team," stated MacLean.

"This year's team is a very young but promising group."



Sydney Holland

THE ONE-TWO STEP - With an injection of youth, Laurier has been running right through their opponents.

Hawks break into win column

Men's soccer team get back on track after fighting through tough defensive system of visiting York Lions

MARK D. HOPKINS
CORD SPORTS

After opening their 2006 season with a loss to Brock and a pair of ties with McMaster and Guelph, the Golden Hawks men's soccer squad managed to squeak by the York Lions with a score of 1 - 0 on Sunday afternoon at Alumni Field.

The victory allowed Laurier to plough their way into the win column for the first time this season. To say that it didn't come easy would be a gross understatement.

Battling against a strong defensive team, a confident goalkeeper in the opposition net, and some questionable no-calls from the referee, frustration was running high for the Hawks - until late in the match, that is.

First-year player Matthew Smith scored a beautiful goal as he headed in a corner kick in the 87th minute to propel the Golden Hawks over the rival Lions. The fact that Laurier was facing the reigning OUA rookie of the year and first team OUA all-star goal-tender, Greg Zatulovsky, made the

goal even more impressive.

York dropped its fourth straight decision to open their season. The Lions' offense has failed to support their solid defense and goal-tending this year. York has six goals against in their first four matches, while their offense has only managed to score a single one.

Laurier bench boss Barry MacLean was happy with the win, but was adamant that York's talent level does not mirror their current winless record. "It's a great win for us," noted MacLean. "York is struggling points-wise, but they

will move up in the standings."

The talent appears to be in place for the Golden Hawks to at least make an appearance in the post-season. Their only possible weakness is their lack of experience. In light of that, MacLean is looking more towards individual and team performances and building the Hawks into a cohesive unit instead of simply wins and losses.

"We have eight starting players that are first-years," continued MacLean, "We're not so worried about results - we're worried about performances. We're taking

[it] a game at a time."

However, with that in mind, MacLean recognized the importance of posting their first win of the season in concluding that, "We are ecstatic to get a win. [York is] a very good team."

This match versus York marked the second of a four-game home-stead at the new Alumni Field for the Golden Hawks. Laurier now has dates with Western and Windsor this weekend before battling through a five-game road trip.



Sydney Holland

IN YOUR FACE! - York's Douglas Sereti goes head over heels in a collision with Laurier goalie Shaddi Fahel. Both finished the game after a temporary stoppage in play.

Laurier gets swept on the diamond

Four straight losses force uphill climb towards post-season birth

MARK ADAMSON
CORD SPORTS

Laurier's baseball team struggled on Saturday afternoon with two seven-inning games in a double-header at Bechtel Park. Toronto's Varsity Blues defeated the Golden Hawks 6-5 in the opener, and followed up with a 6-3 victory on the back end of the twin bill.

The Hawks fell on the losing side of a see-saw match in the first game. Pat Kropf staked Laurier to a 2-0 lead with RBI base hits in the first and third innings.

That lead stood until the top of the fifth, where Toronto put 3 runs up on the board. Laurier answered back in the bottom half of the inning with 3 runs of their own, keyed by a 2-run double from Kropf.

Toronto struck back with 3 more runs in the top half of the next inning off starting pitcher John Jurgaitis, to take a 6-5 lead that they would not relinquish.

In the final two innings, Laurier's hitters fizzled, as all six batters were retired in order, with 5 of the batters striking out. Toronto starting pitcher Jesse Fulton struck out the side in the 7th to seal the complete game victory.

The Hawks failed to capitalize on three defensive errors committed by Toronto and fell just

short of a win in an entertaining game.

In the second game of the afternoon, Toronto soared to an early lead, as they tallied five runs in the first two innings against rookie Laurier starter Jacob Walford, who picked up the loss for the Hawks. Toronto sent Daniel Colangelo to the hill, and he carried a no-hitter into the fifth inning, stymieing the Golden Hawk hitters. Laurier added three late runs, but it was too little, too late, as Toronto held on for a 6-3 victory.

The lack of timely hitting cost the Hawks, which couldn't post enough runs on the board to beat a Toronto team that at times looked very sloppy in the field. Though it takes a lot of offense to best six opposing runs in a seven-inning game, the Hawks have yet to provide adequate run support to earn a victory.

"I'm concerned about the hitting," said Golden Hawks head coach Paul Reidel. "There's no consistency right now, but hopefully it'll come."

"You've just got to be patient," said Reidel. "Trouble with this league is there are only 18 games, and now we're 0-3, kind of behind the 8-ball," said Reidel following the losses to Toronto.

"We have a lot of winning to do to make the playoffs."

Laurier's losing streak continued on Sunday afternoon with a loss to their cross-town rivals from the University of Waterloo. The Hawks were soundly defeated 10-1 in a game that saw another rookie starter, Brad Binns, get saddled with the loss after giving up five earned runs over four innings. The offense failed to offer any run support for Binns, as the team was held scoreless by Waterloo starter Wes Koch, who pitched six innings for the win.

Following their 7-2 season-opening loss to Western on Thursday, and their two losses to Toronto on Saturday, the Hawks' loss to Waterloo dropped the club's regular season record to 0-4. In those three games, the offense has tallied just 11 runs, while the defense has surrendered 29 runs to their opponents.

This demoralizing start to the season follows a strong 2005 campaign in which the club posted its best ever record, finishing 10-8. Laurier looks to reverse their fortunes and grab their first win of the season in games against Brock and Guelph this week, and get back in the playoff hunt. "You can't lose more than eight games and make the playoffs, so it's going to be a tough road," said Reidel.

>THE SPOTLIGHT

The midas touch

Sophomore coach takes ladies rugby to next level

PARRY SOHI
CORD SPORTS

In her first year at the head coaching reigns of the women's rugby team, Jennifer Armitage made her presence felt after spending two years as an assistant.

OUA women's rugby is divided into two divisions: the Russell Division and the Sheils Division. Of the two, the Sheils division is considered to be more competitive and physically demanding. In the 2005 season, Armitage led the Golden Hawks to a sixth place overall finish, sealing WLU a spot to move from the Russell Division up to the Sheils Division.

Armitage was awarded the Russell Division 2005 Coach of the Year for her efforts; "I was very honoured to receive the award in my first year," commented Armitage, "but it's equally a team accomplishment." When it comes to coaching, Armitage describes herself as being "rough on the outside, but gentle on the inside," and very committed to team development.

Armitage places emphasis on both the mental and physical aspects of the game, as she is devel-



Laurier Athletics

RUGBY BOSS - Jennifer Armitage

oped to developing team cohesion and chemistry as well as individual rugby skills. Fourth-year flanker Lisa Benne credits Armitage for turning around the program: "She is always organized, committed to the team, and so passionate ... she's the driving force behind the team's success."

- SEE COACH, PAGE 9

Sports in Canada need a little TLC



SUMEET VERMA
CORD SPORTS

It was the first time in the history of the sport that an NCAA championship team was coming to play a game against a Canadian university. Was it a monumental game in the history of inter-collegiate basketball? Not exactly. A game that would revolutionize and narrow the gap between Canadian and American university sports? Hardly.

It was a game the Florida Gators were forced to play due to schedule restrictions in the United States and natural disasters in Barbados. So Plan C, which meant travelling north of the border and playing Brock and Guelph University in a couple of non-competitive and meaningless basketball games, was put into effect.

The Brock Badgers took on the NCAA champion Florida Gators in a match that featured future-NBA lottery pick and Final Four MVP Joakim Noah. In their last three

seasons, the Badgers have shown significant success in the CIS, putting together a 48-18 record.

All of which did not seem to matter once both teams had hit the floor. The fact that the Gators were wearing their practice jerseys, while the Badgers were seen in full-game uniforms, pretty much said it all. Fifteen minutes into the game, the score was 43-17 in favor of the Gators, a score which only foreshadowed succeeding events.

The Badgers failed to participate in any competitive basketball against a Gator team that had all five of their championship starters on the floor at the same time for only five minutes. Suffice to say that during those five minutes the Badgers stood no chance, being outscored 18-3 by the NCAA champs.

It is hardly fair that either party disregards this match-up as a battle between two teams that were unequally matched up. Both teams consisted of players that were receiving an education on basketball-scholarships, and representing their respected post-secondary institutes.

How is it that a coach who has just lost by over 50 points can come away saying, "Forget about what's on the scoreboard. Let's make sure we get ready for our season. I'm really happy?" On the other hand, a Gator player went on record to say, "Just the fact we could practice as a team and get our freshmen in [was produc-

Whereas one team was just looking to get their freshmen some practice, the other was busy just having a neat experience.

tive]." Whereas one team was just looking to get their freshmen some practice, the other was busy just having a neat experience.

The next day the CIS Men's Basketball powerhouse Carleton Ravens faced-off against the unranked NCAA Louisville Cardinals. Carleton has made the CIS championships for four consecutive years over which they have achieved a record eighty-six straight wins. Though the Ravens

seemed to be the superior team, they followed in the Badgers' footsteps, losing to another NCAA team. Regardless of the fact that the Ravens had dominated Canadian collegiate basketball for almost half a decade now, they were no match for an unranked NCAA team.

What happened on the second night of September, no matter how highly anticipated, once again demonstrated the mockery that is Canadian basketball. Whether it was the beating the freshmen Gators handed the Badgers, or the one they gave the "all-star" team from Guelph the following day, the bitter truth remains the same. Hockey aside, Canadian university sports in every aspect have shown little-to-no interest at significantly improving their standards.

The problem does not necessarily originate or only exist at the university level.

It can be traced back to a lack of funding and coaching, along

with other such flaws at the grassroots, though these issues are not brought to centre stage until they reach the intercollegiate standard.

The issue is not necessarily the fact that there are visible disparities between the two college systems. It's not the fact that, given the opportunity, anyone on the Brock Badgers would have rather played for the Florida Gators.

However, the problem arises with the extent of this disparity, and the "loser" mentality that Canadian teams bring forth. In a case of two collegiate basketball teams meeting, why is it that one team leaves looking like professional basketball players, while the others like a bunch of old high-schoolers?

The truth is the Gators would rather be laying on a beach in Barbados, and if "Plan B" had come to fruition, the Badgers would not have had the humbling experience of being soundly beaten by a team and then asking for their autographs.

Sheils' Coach of the Year in 2005

- FROM COACH, PAGE 8

Although Armitage can be tough on the field Benne suggested that "players are more than willing to go the extra distance for her because she puts in a lot of behind the scenes work that benefits the team."

Looking to the 2006 season, Armitage has set the team's goal at remaining in the upper Sheils division. She felt the team got off on a positive note this past weekend dominating the Waterloo Warriors in non-conference play 27-0: "We have roughly 80 percent of the

team returning from last season so overall we're pretty solid."

The team will be relying on Missy Patrik and Tyler Roppelt for motivation and leadership throughout the season. Patrik played provincially this past summer while Roppelt trained with Team Canada.

Overall, the team will be looking to increase its physical strength and kicking game. Behind veteran leadership, athletic rookies, and a confident coaching staff led by Armitage, the team should fare well in the Sheils division, and potentially improve from last year.

HOOOOLY MACKANAW!

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ALUMNI FIELD GRAND OPENING



Alumni Field will be home to the mens & womens varsity soccer teams and Laurier Recreation

Join us for the Commemoration and Grand Opening of Alumni Field!

Tuesday September 19th, 2006 @ noon

There will be a FREE bbq and an ultimate frisbee pick-up game



Charitable front cause of audit

- FROM AUDIT, COVER

were going to be sent to the LTTE, more commonly known as the Tamil Tigers, in Sri Lanka.

In response to this, UW has put both the finances of Waterloo Tamil Students' Association (WATSA) and co-op procedures for international placements under review. Two of the arrested, Suresh Sriskandarajah and Thirukumar Sivasubramaniam, are former executive members of WATSA. Sriskandarajah is a former co-op student, who received a self-directed placement in Sri Lanka.

The Co-op, Clubs Connection

UW is listed as a supporter of Vanni Innovation Group (VIG), an organization founded by Sriskandarajah that partnered with the Tamils Rehabilitation Organization (TRO).

The TRO is a group that provides support services to Sri Lankan Tamils looking to rebuild after years of conflict and tsunami wreckage, yet is alleged to be a charitable front organization for the Tamil Tigers. According to reports, UW is currently in the process of getting its name removed from VIG's website, which also lists Microsoft as a supporter.

Sriskandarajah listed VIG in his employment history, begging the question of how indepth co-op coordinators research student employment history and international placements. International placements are especially difficult to monitor, and the normal practice of a midterm in-person meeting with the Co-op Coordinator is replaced with a written report.

"I think we have a pretty good check system in place," said Laurier Co-op Marketing Manager, Laurie Lahn, who is in charge of international placements.

The process of accepting international employers is also completed remotely, after contact with the employer and more independent research. Most overseas placements are with multinational corporations. Others are with universities, including Aberdeen in Scotland, she says.

"We approve entrepreneurial jobs," said Karen McCargar, asso-

ciate director of co-operative education at Laurier, "but to date, we have approved them under very strict guidelines... So it doesn't really lend itself to something outside of the country."

Only about 15 to 20 Laurier students receive overseas placements each year, reducing the possibility of problems with placements on the scale UW is currently dealing with. "We have to remember that we're talking about much smaller numbers," says McCargar.

That being said, the co-op department is watching the co-op audit underway at UW.

"We're always investigating best practices in different areas, so we don't work in a vacuum on this kind of thing," said McCargar. "Anything other schools can gain from and develop some best practices, we'd be happy to hear about them."

Follow the money

Following best practices may prove more complicated for WLUSU's Campus Clubs. Since WATSA was subject to financial audit, Campus Clubs is faced with the decision of whether to tighten accounting practices within clubs or to manage problematic situations as they arise – especially since it is ultimately responsible for the finances of any club on campus.

Although Campus Clubs collects receipts for all expenses for each club, and matches them up with the budget, financial tracking is far from complete. Most clubs receive a large portion of their funding from Campus Clubs' parent organization, WLUSU, limiting available funds to the current budget. Many clubs are therefore required to fundraise to support many of their events – it is here that WLUSU's policies put both Campus Clubs and itself in a position of responsibility.

"All campus clubs are covered by our insurance," said Dan Hocking, WLUSU's VP: Marketing, "so we have to make sure they aren't doing anything against the law."

At the same time, Hocking agrees that not all fundraising by the clubs – or spending, for that matter – is accounted for.

"[Clubs] can raise all kinds of money which they put into their



Contributed Photo

READYING FOR 'FINAL FIGHT' - Peace talks set for October may mean an end to decades of violence.

account that we try and control, but the fundraising itself isn't really controlled by the budgeting. It's their own money."

"They absolutely could use it for anything," says Hocking.

The extent of WLUSU's insurance coverage is important not only in financial matters, but in liability matters.

"Clubs are not responsible for the majority of their members' actions," outside of club events and activities, says Campus Clubs Co-ordinator Matt Provost. "This stands unless a member partakes in such extreme action that it affects others within the club or on campus." In such a case, "the club would be responsible for reporting such an incident."

A Backgrounder

The Tigers were listed as a terrorist group on April 10, 2006 by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). By listing the group, the Canadian government has also made any fundraising for the group illegal, since it now falls under the Criminal Code. The FBI listed them as such a group in 1997.

Stockwell Day, minister of public safety said that, "this listing is meant to support the Tamil community of Canada who are law-abiding and hard working people." In the same statement, he called the listing "long overdue."

Founded in 1976, the LTTE has tried to win an independent Tamil state in northern Sri Lanka. Their efforts quickly escalated into over 19 years of active civil war, followed by a ceasefire that was subsequently replaced by violence.

After recuperating from the tsunami of December 2005, the freedom fighters began attacks on the Sinhala-dominated Sri Lankan government, building upon a short history of violence that has seen tens of thousands die. According to a report issued by the US Department of Justice, nearly 1,700 have been killed since April 2006.

Putting up a front

Renewed violence in the region was preceded by intensive fundraising by the Tigers – both at home and in the West – and not all seems to have been directed towards rehabilitation after the tsunami hit.

In a recent report, Human Rights Watch, an NGO that focuses on basic human rights violations, said that "in late 2005, the Tamil Tigers launched an aggressive and systematic fundraising drive in Canada and parts of Europe to pressure individuals and business owners in the Tamil diaspora to give money for what they called the 'final war' between the Tamil Tigers and the Sri Lankan government."

Canada is a haven for Tamils looking to raise funds. Nearly half of all foreign national Tamils live in Canada, amounting to 300,000 or 400,000. Much the same way as Canada accepted Lebanese refugees from violence in the mid 1980s, Canadian immigration opened its arms to Tamils fleeing warfare over its 19-year span.

Politicians, including Maria Minna and Paul Martin, while a politician as Finance Minister, have supported fundraising ini-

tiatives by Tamil groups, in face of warnings from the RCMP and FBI that these groups may use some funding for their efforts in the civil war in Sri Lanka.

Yet many claim that any money that is directed towards funding also contributes to the LTTE's cause – and not all of it is come by honestly. According to a telephone survey conducted in Canada by the World Tamil Movement (WTM), closely associated with the LTTE, 3.4 percent of respondents answered that they had been subject to "extortion attempts or any other form of intimidation by the WTM."

Keeping it balanced

Yet the Tigers are not entirely closed to peace. As Norwegian mediators told the BBC in a report yesterday, the Sri Lankan government and the LTTE have agreed to hold peace talks "without any preconditions." Although an initial step, coming after escalating violence in the area, the agreement may mean that food will reach those in need who have had aid supplies cut off due to the conflict.

Once aid reaches those it is meant for, the call for funding from Tigers affiliates may subside. Peace, too, may mean that the Tigers' "final fight" has come to an end.

Until the international situation settles, all eyes will be turned to the University of Waterloo, its financial and procedural audits, and Laurier's response to – or neglect of – any changes this event has spawned.

Alliances leading to atrocities in Lebanon



The recent crisis in Lebanon has raised many important and complex questions. Why did the Israeli invasion of Lebanon take place? What were the motives of the major players in this conflict? Finally, the most important question: did this invasion bring profound changes in the country?

In war there are always two sides to every story. In this case the one side is the Israeli view, that of a government trying to recover soldiers kidnapped in the immediate past. The other side is Hezbollah's story, that of a political group trying to recover hundreds of soldiers kept by Israel over a longer term.

So why the invasion? The obvious answer, one that most news stories would tell you, would be that Hezbollah kidnapped two Israeli soldiers. But to stop there would be naïve. Israel's motives go far beyond that: it is solely on the

surface that one can accept that the conflict involved only Israel and Hezbollah.

Although many countries were involved in the crisis, both in rescuing their own foreign nationals and working to bring peace between the two countries, I will focus here on the United States, a major broker in the peace process. It is amazing the type of rhetoric the Bush administration and Israel used when eluding to Hezbollah's leader Sheikh Hasan Nasrallah and to his organization, the most notorious being a refer-

ence to Islamo-Fascists. Peace deals are not brought of insults.

Israel's declaration of war was not just against Nasrallah; it was also against Iran and Syria. Israel was confident enough in its support, particularly from the US, but also from Britain and Germany, to act as it pleased. This let them push their hidden agenda; to prove to Syria and Iran, who don't recognize Israel as a state, that it was serious in its claims to territory under dispute. By illegally occupying Lebanon, albeit for a short period of time, Israel sent a

threat to its opponents, and displayed its military prowess. If you were Iran or Syria, would you put your civilians in danger of war crimes?

Not only did the United States offer support that skewed the war, the western world sat idly by as thousands of Lebanese saw their homes destroyed under constant bombardment of Israeli rockets.

Places like Qana, Lebanon were tragically hit by the violence with well over 30 Lebanese children

Cultural Learnings for Make appears at International film fest

Jokester hailed by comedic legend Cleese, but isn't so popular at 'home'

MARY ERSKINE
STAFF WRITER

"Jagshemash! High Five!"

Over the last few years, these catch phrases have been popularized by a man named Borat Sagdiyev, world-renowned Kazakh reporter.

As he made his entrance at the Toronto International Film Festival last weekend, Borat rode to the premiere screening in a cart pulled by six women dressed as cleaners.

Borat's rising popularity in the West has been much to the chagrin of the government which he claims to represent, as the fictitious character is not from Kazakhstan, nor is he concerned with depicting the country in a realistic manner.

Sacha Baron Cohen, the man behind Borat and Ali G, is a Cambridge-educated Jew who uses the comedy to expose some of the darkest elements of society in the people who interact with Borat directly.

Having gained fame on *Da Ali G Show*, Borat is bringing his antics

to the big screen.

The movie, whose lengthy title is: *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*, follows the fictional Kazakh television reporter across the "US and A" as he goes about trying to learn lessons from the more "advanced" nation to take back to his own country.

The film contrasts the socially "backwards" behaviour of the fictional Borat against various American religious, social and political groups and individuals.

Borat's blatant anti-Semitic, as well as homophobic, misogynist and racist comments provoke mixed reactions.

However, no matter how outrageous Borat is, he seems to always encounter those who agree with him, such as the group who sang along with him as he sang a song entitled "Throw the Jew down the well" at a country bar in the southern US.

As for the behaviour which directly offends the country of Kazakhstan, jokes include suggestions that wine in Kazakhstan is made from fermented horse

urine, women are worth less than horses but more than rats, and, in Borat's own words, "In Kazakhstan we have many hobbies: disco dancing, archery, rape and table tennis."

Baron Cohen remarks that the Borat's behaviour is a "dramatic demonstration of how racism feeds on dumb conformity, as much as rabid bigotry," and not expressions of genuine racism.

Meanwhile, while many audiences applaud the goals and appreciate the outrageous humour, the government of Kazakhstan is fuming over the negative misleading image which Borat's character is imparting onto a mass audience.

Responses by the government thus far have included threatening Cohen with a defamation lawsuit, removing the Kazakhstan-based 'borat.kz' website, and even considering purchasing airtime within the United States to educate about "real Kazakhstan."

The feature-length movie is not the first instance that the character has infuriated the Kazakh government.



Contributed Photo

WEE WEE WAW WAW - Borat sports the Kazakhstani bathing suit.

Last year, Borat hosted the annual MTV Europe Music Awards in Lisbon, after which the Kazakh Foreign Ministry spokesperson Yerzhan Ashykbayev stated, "We do not rule out that Mr. Cohen is serving someone's political order designed to present Kazakhstan and its people in a derogatory way ... we view Mr. Cohen's behaviour at the MTV Europe Music Awards as utterly unacceptable, being a

concoction of bad taste and ill manners which is completely incompatible with ethics and civilized behaviour."

Cohen's response to campaigns against him by Kazakh authorities came in character: "I fully support my government's decision to sue this Jew."

The movie is due to be released in November of this year.

Eyes opened abroad

KEREN GOTTFRIED
STAFF WRITER

Adventure-hungry students will storm the Metro Toronto Convention Centre this weekend for the third annual Go Abroad Fair. The fair showcases the many travel opportunities available to youth, including academic exchanges, volunteer and work opportunities, and culture programs.

The exhibition is hosted by the Canadian Education Centre Network and funded by the Canadian government. Admission to visitors is free. Visitors will have the

opportunity to win door prizes including a Contiki 8-day Italian Espresso Tour, courtesy of BelAirTravel.com.

The fair will host over 100 organizations offering a variety of services and opportunities to students. Organizations include the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), i-to-I Volunteer Travel, Travel Cuts, and Ingle International. Visitors will also be able to attend hourly seminars throughout both Saturday and Sunday. Jean-Marc Hachey, author of *The BIG Guide to Living and Working Overseas*, is the key-

note speaker.

The Go Abroad Fair will not only feature different opportunities available for travel, but will also offer tools to get students to where they want to go.

Scholarship and financial aid, deals on travel, housing and cultural information will all be presented to visitors.

Students are encouraged to bring a tote bag to carry materials they collect. They are also welcome to bring resumes and academic transcripts to give directly to representatives of the organizations present at the fair.

Statistics Canada reported in May of this year that Canadians took 21.1 million overnight trips around the world last year, with a significant percentage of those travellers being youth.

Scott Eyser, who attended the Fair last year, cannot say enough about his academic exchange experience in the Netherlands. "If you have the chance to go abroad - do it! I can't say that enough. It really changes a person - it's such an eye-opener. Anyone that hasn't lived abroad is really missing out. If I had to do this all over again, I would, without thinking twice."

More information about the Go

- FROM LEBANON, PAGE 10

perishing due to Israeli rockets hitting civilians. This was not the first time civilians were killed due to the indiscriminate Israeli rockets.

However, it is very important to understand that many Israeli citizens, much like their Lebanese counterparts, also suffered from this conflict.

Areas such as Tiberius were under constant attack from Hezbollah by Katyusha rockets. Once fighting began, the night sky was lit with flames and smoke on both sides of the border.

Several things need to be taken from the Lebanese conflict, in particular that the invasion and subsequent destruction of Lebanon was illegal.

Israel broke every sovereignty treaty called to mind, if not all of them, by invading Lebanon. Counter to this is Hezbollah, who instigated this conflict by kidnapping the two Israeli soldiers.

It cannot be stressed enough that Hezbollah does not hold the seat of Lebanon's government, therefore Israel's war should have been with Hezbollah and not the Lebanese state. Tragically, the war was indeed against Lebanon and its people. Just like in 1982, when Israel

last invaded Lebanon, the outcome of the war was unnecessary destruction.

The Lebanese people suffered, their infrastructure suffered, and their futures suffered.

But in this situation, Israel too will suffer: its atrocities have exposed it as a rogue state, and its unilateral actions will win it no new allies in either the international community or the tumultuous Islamic world.

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A day in the life of Frosh

The *Cord* gets the scoop on O-Week and what first years expect in university life

VERONICA HUGHES
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

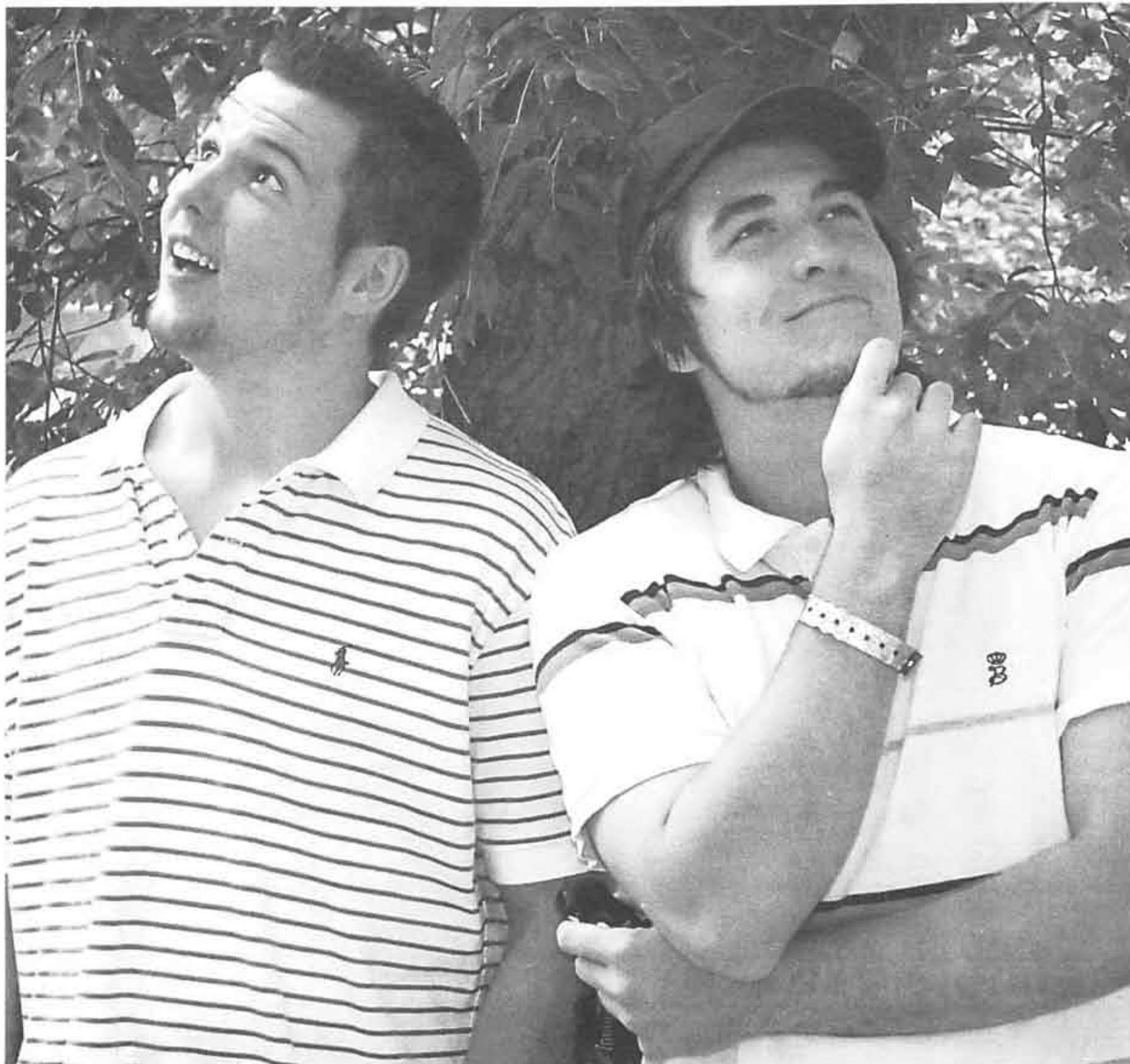
Tyler Murphy and Brad Pearen by all accounts are typical first year students. Both 18 years old and reigning from Ajax, Ontario, they are starting their first week of university classes. However, they do stand out from the crowd in one aspect: they have a profile piece in the *Cord Weekly* just for being themselves.

As members of the Blue Samurai O-Week team they purchased this article at their colour team auctions with all proceeds going towards Shinerama. Both thought the team was not aware of what a great opportunity was provided to them. As Murphy simply put it, "Everyone will know who you are." Pearen agrees. "[The article] is a better way to meet people," he said.

Both, however, had different reasons for coming to Laurier. Pearen, a business major, was impressed with the co-op program. "I wanted the co-op course because I wanted to be going in the field once I was done."

Murphy, a student of psychology and biology, got early acceptance and decided to seal the deal. Now he's concerned with getting the grades. "I want to do well and bring a good mark home so [my parents] will pay for next year."

They will have to buckle down after the whirlwind of activities O-Week presented. They knew O-Week would be busy, but with little to compare it to except *Van Wilder* and *Animal House*, it was hard to know what to expect. "I figured [O-Week] would be like the movies, which it was," explains



THE FROSH BUNCH - First-years Brad Pearen and Tyler Murphy loved every minute of their O-Week.

Murphy.

Pearen read up on the festivities prior to moving in and chose what he would do ahead of time. "All I looked forward to was the Price is Right. I didn't get chosen, but it was so fun."

They also didn't expect O-Week to start the minute they arrived. Tyler Murphy's parents were shocked as well. "My parents felt this was one huge party they were paying \$20,000 for." However, the guys feel the whole experience

was well worth it.

"The breakers are good at getting everyone to communicate, otherwise everyone would be staring at their feet the entire time," explains Pearen. They would've liked to intermingle with the other

colour teams more, to meet more people, but had nothing but positive comments about the rest of the week.

Now, as Pearen states, "[We're] interested to see how university compares to high school."

Staying ahead of the academic curve

This term, know where to go for help with course work

ASHLEY ROSE
CORD STUDENT LIFE

As a first-year student one of the last things you want to tell your parents upon moving back home is that you have not been asked to return to Laurier. But no matter what year you are in, it is never easy to stay on top of readings, assignments and essays.

While it is only the first week of school you have probably already glanced at your course outlines and realized just how much read-

ing you will need to do in order to get by.

Classes can be overwhelming and it is easy to fall behind. If you watch an episode of *Grey's Anatomy* instead of reading that chapter for psychology it's easy to assume that you can catch up next week. After all, one chapter is not that much. However, when you do the same the next week and two weeks later, things start to weigh down on you and it's easier to just stay behind. You do not want to be playing catch-up three days before your final.

If you do find yourself falling behind, Laurier offers some great services to help you get back up the slippery slope of academic failure. If you are a first-year in

residence, your first stop should always be at your residence life don's door. As senior students they will have tips and advice to share.

Each department or faculty dean's office should have their own academic advisor. According to the WLU website, these advisers "will address the concerns students have about their courses, degree requirements and program progression."

Tutorial Services can help to pair a struggling student with a potential student tutor. The "Laurier Tooters" offer free academic assistance to students in almost every discipline. Located on the third floor of the Fred Nichols Campus Centre, they urge students to stop by anytime.

Finally, one of the key skills needed to succeed throughout university is knowing how to write a good paper.

The Writing Centre is available to students who want to learn how to write excellent academic essays. They are not interested in letting students sit back while they do the editing work.

They will work with you one-on-one to allow your writing skills to improve, not just for that one paper, but for every paper you will ever need to write at Laurier.

Sometimes it helps to have a friend look over your writing. "You should get someone to proofread your papers, and have them try to pick out and write down what they think your actual thesis is,

and the main points of your paper," suggests Sarah Bitale, a former Laurier teacher's assistant. "That way, if they do not have something right then you know that you are not being clear and need to change something. The proofreader can also make sure that all main points are tied back in with the thesis throughout the paper, for flow and consistency."

Succeeding in university does not have to be hard. You do not have to stay in every night, but you should not let yourself fall too far behind. Remember, everyone feels overwhelmed at some point, so take a couple of deep breaths and maybe grab a Yogen Früz before jumping back in.

Budget and Spending 101

How to save your summer job earnings this year

ASHLEY JANG
CORD STUDENT LIFE

So you've worked all summer to save up for school and it's finally time for you to spend. What most students going into university don't realize is how fast your savings disappear. From textbooks, to food, to going out, university life can get very expensive. The best way to get through the year is to budget your money.

"Many students have trouble with budgeting their money because there are a lot of unseen or unanticipated expenses, and because they have never lived alone or had to meet certain commitments," says Dave Roberts, branch manager at TD Canada Trust.

Here are a few tips to help get through your first year without going broke.

Give yourself a weekly allowance

Most students move into residence and end up blowing a big chunk of their savings during O-week or during the first couple of months of school when partying is at its peak. To avoid spending too much too fast, try to set a budget each week for your living expenses. This budget should allow for food and entertainment, and you should make sure to leave room for any unexpected costs. "Set aside leftover money from your budget so you can have extra money for next week," suggests Roberts.

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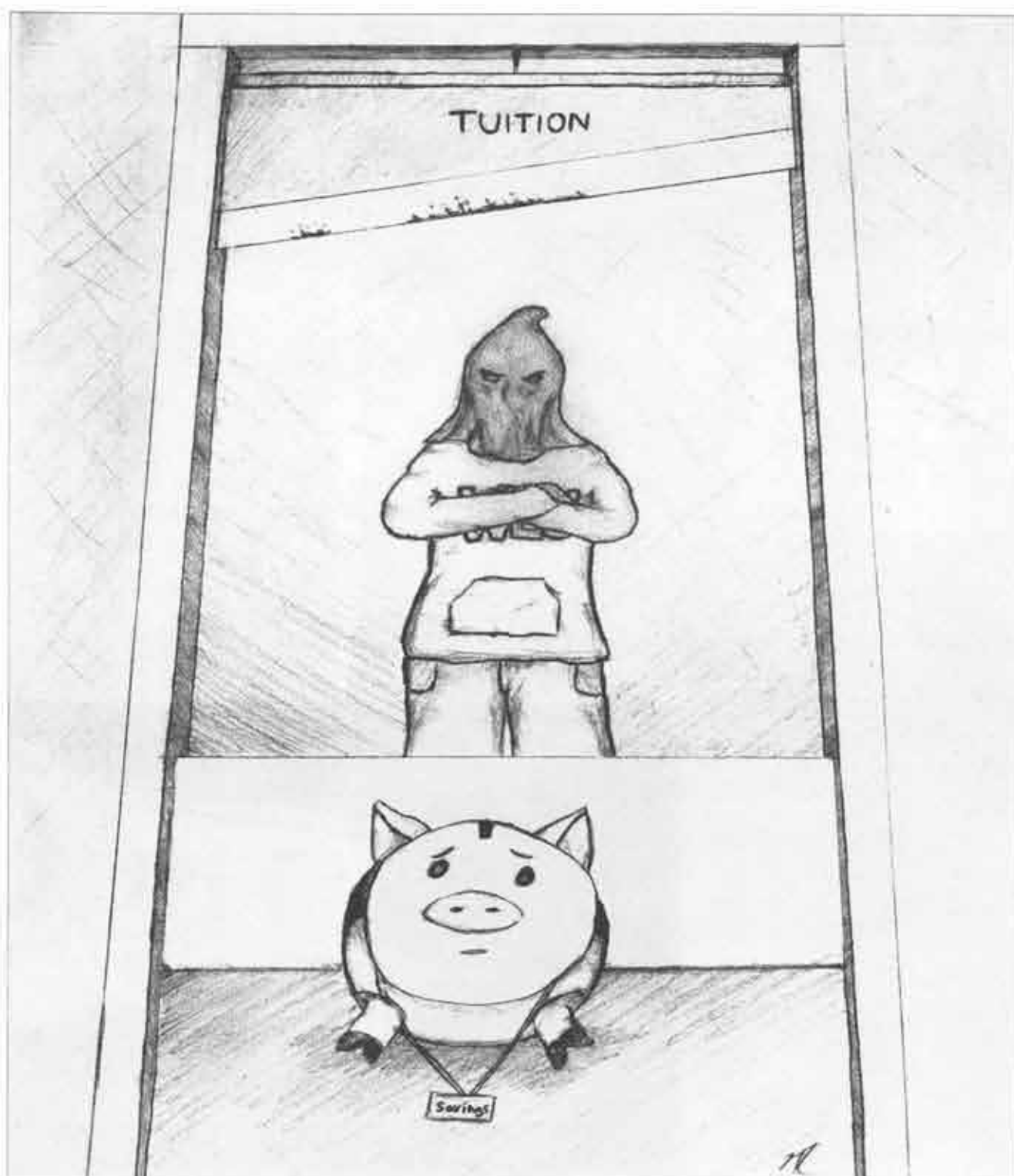
By using your OneCard you can eat and make purchases on campus without making a significant dent in your wallet. As a bonus, on-campus food can be tasty, close by and open at convenient hours. If you're ever tired of on-campus food, OneCards are also accepted at numerous off-campus restaurants, such as Benny's. By using your OneCard you can spend that much less on food expenses and take advantage of the money you put into your meal plan.

Opt for used books

Buying brand-new textbooks can get very expensive and is not always necessary. Check out the student book sale or look online at the library website to find used books at much cheaper prices. This will give you more money to spend on other things.

Pre-drink and go to bar specials

Drinking is not a cheap habit. To help you budget your money try to pre-drink before going out and find out about cheap drink nights. Phil's offers \$1.75 drinks every night, the Mongolian Grill has \$5.00 martinis on Mondays and Fubar has Ladies' Night every Tuesday, just to name a few. Saving on drinking will help cut your recreational expenses.



CUTTING SAVINGS - Tuition is a huge slice of a students' budget.

Save on transportation

Let's face it; Laurier is not a very big school. You can easily get around by walking to most places. But when it's too far to walk, opt for the bus. Your OneCard acts as a bus pass to use throughout all of Kitchener-Waterloo, so take advantage of it.

By watching how much you spend and setting a budget for yourself, you can easily get through first year without breaking the bank. If you feel that you aren't able to budget your money properly, various banks offer services that can help you out.

According to Roberts, "[Banks] offer illustrators that help indi-

viduals see where they stand in regards to finances. Budgeting is something that everybody should be concerned with both now and in the future."

Budgeting your money doesn't mean you have to give up certain things - it simply means watching how you spend and getting the biggest bang for your buck.



The Cord is looking for students to participate in a study about relationships. We're accepting opinions from current Laurier students, male and female, from first year to sixth year. Participants will meet to discuss relationships, ex's, and the interactions that follow a break.

If interested, please email mbrown@cordweekly.com for more info.



Hungry Hungry Hippos?

Student Life is looking for a food critic to review local establishments once a month.

Applications are in the WLUSP office (basement of the Mac House) and due Sept 14.
Forward all inquiries to: vhughes@cordweekly.com

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Many sexually-active people already infected with HPV

HPV vaccine may prevent infection, but education key to sexual health

TRACEY LINDEMAN
THE LINK (CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY)

MONTREAL (CUP) -- Most sexually active twenty-somethings think condoms are enough to prevent contracting sexually transmitted infections, but what many don't know is that they may already have one.

"Most of us who've ever had sex are already infected with the [human Papilloma virus]," said Dr. Abby Lippman of the Canadian Women's Health Network and McGill's department of epidemiology, biostatistics and occupational health.

Three-quarters of sexually active Canadians will have at least one HPV infection in their lives, but many people aren't aware they have it.

While HPV causes genital warts in some people, others may not experience any symptoms.

"A lot of the mystery about HPV has melted away," said Dr. Michael Shier, a University of Toronto professor and the chief of gynecology at Toronto's Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. "We're realizing that we're all exposed to it."

And that's why pharmaceutical giant Merck Frosst has unveiled Gardasil, the only vaccine that protects women from the four most common strains of HPV -- the main cause of cervical cancer, and a contributing cause of vulvar and vaginal cancer.

After five years of international clinical trials, Gardasil has been approved for females between nine and 26 years old -- but Shier recommends parents vaccinate their daughters sooner rather than later.

"It would be ideal to administer at infancy [eventually]," he said. But for now, Shier agrees that the decision to vaccinate girls should rest in parents' hands.

Lippman is concerned that some parents will use the vaccine to avoid addressing their children's sexuality, and that the Quebec government will use the vaccine to avoid coughing up the cash for quality sex education.

"The vaccine is an interesting option but I think it has to be put into the context of how we teach young girls about sex, how to protect themselves from sexually transmitted diseases of all kinds," she said. "While the vaccine may address [HPV] we still have a large problem on our hands of chlamydia infections in young girls that no one's paying attention to, and other sexually transmitted infections."

And unless the Quebec government has a change of heart, the province's youth will continue to be deprived of sex education programs.

According to Head & Hands, a Montreal youth empowerment organization, the Quebec govern-

ment erased sex education from the curriculum in 2005, making it no longer mandatory for schools to offer sex ed classes.

Their website states that it is now up to teachers to integrate sexual health information into regular classes: in other words, that teachers have to find their own methods of including sex education content into courses such as French, geography and art.

"We need really good sex ed, and

if the schools can't do it, let's give the money to community groups that are doing great sex ed like Head & Hands," said Lippman. And it looks like Quebecers could use a little more sexual schooling. McGill University distributed free condoms to new students in their frosh packs.

But in an informal poll conducted by CTV News, 32 percent of viewers thought McGill shouldn't hand out condoms. In the face of

growing STI rates, the poll results are of great concern.

"I think that condoms [and birth control pills] should be available to everybody without charge," said Lippman.

"But clearly, I'm not coming from a Focus on the Family perspective on this," she said, referencing the conservative Christian group. "I want young people to feel very comfortable being sexual in all kinds of ways, and I want them to be protected in all kinds of ways."

Gardasil is being marketed as preventing cervical cancer, rather than to protect women against HPV.

And women who have contracted one of the four strains of HPV can use the vaccine to protect themselves against the other three.

But the Quebec government is still waiting on the federal Common Drug Review to discuss coverage of the vaccine.

"In making its recommendations on drugs, the CDR focuses on longer-term benefits and therapeutic effectiveness relative to other treatments, as well as cost-effectiveness. The CDR considers whether there is good value for public plans," said Health Canada media relations officer Nathalie Lalonde.

Lippman cautions women to seriously consider the pros and cons of getting the vaccine.

"The concern is looking at women's bodies piece by piece and not connecting all the dots," she said. "[The things that often happen to women], that wreck their health, are in the system and not in women's bodies."

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Student Life top ten

Laura Carlson suggests ten ultimate activities to brighten up your school year

LAURA CARLSON
CORD STUDENT LIFE

It may seem that eight months of school will last an eternity, but in reality first year will fly by.

Before you know it you will be packing up your room and heading home for the summer. So here are some things to try out, to make sure you make the most of first year.

1) Go play in the snow

Grab your floormates, take along a thermos of vodka and enjoy the first snowfall. Go tobogganing on the hill beside the library (dining hall trays work quite well), have a giant snowball fight in front of your residence building or participate in a game of Powderpuff football on Alumni Field.

2) Stay up for breakfast

After chugging back Red Bulls to pull those painful all-nighters, a little grease will do your stomach good. So hop in a cab and hit up McDonald's for breakfast at 5:30, or if you're a real trooper wait for the dining hall to open up at 7:45.

3) Have a drink on every floor in your building

You may think those guys from the fourth floor are a little creepy, or the girls from floor three are complete snobs, but it's fun to mingle in your residence. So hop on the elevator, ride it to different floors, and meet as many people as possible.

4) Pull pranks

Although you don't want to do anything that may get you kicked out of residence, having an innocent prank war with another floor can be entertaining to say the least. Be creative, have fun and just don't be too surprised if your victims get you back worse than you got them.

5) Go to a Blaze Party

Although many first years are still unable to hit up the bar scene, all ages events allow even those lacking a legitimate ID to go out clubbing.

6) Have a race with your wheelie chairs down the hall

The hallways are long, office chairs roll and it's fun to act like a kid again. So divide your floor into teams and get sliding. Just try to avoid this activity after quiet hours, so you don't have the duty don screeching at you to respect quiet hours.

7) Play flip cup

There's flipping, chugging, racing and an upbeat song to start the game off. Tournaments of flip cup are a great way to bond with others in your building and create some friendly rivalry between floors. And although drinking games are technically prohibited in residence, who can resist the flip?

8) Attend Floor Events

You may not love everybody on your floor, but spending time with your community introduces you to a diverse group of people. Enjoy the company while you can, because after first year the most contact you'll have with some of

your floormates is an awkward conversation in line at the Turret.

9) Try out different bars in Waterloo

Although Phil's may be conveniently close, there are lots of other great drinking spots around the city.

See which bars have specials, dial up Waterloo taxi (which happens to take OneCards), and go out somewhere new.

10) Go to a football game

The atmosphere, the diehard fans, and (usually) seeing Laurier crush any school they play makes football games a great way to show off your school spirit. Even if sports really aren't your thing, it's still an excuse to drink in the middle of the afternoon.



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Making social support institution at uni

ALEX HAYTER
FEATURES EDITOR

The infamous troubadour Ringo Starr once sang, "I'll get by, with a little help from my friends," and at a place like university, it seems there is no better suited phrase.

University is arguably the most life-changing, soul-finding, character-defining stage in the first quarter of your life, if not the whole thing. And it's by no means always a smooth procedure.

Dr. Mike Pratt and Dr. Mark Pancer, both psychology professors at Laurier, have been researching the need for social support among new students coming to university. The evidence of their studies reveals that social support may be the missing factor in many students' lives.

In other words, comprehensive research has shown that students need the help of compassionate, intelligent friends, with whom they can communicate their fears and problems throughout university. Getting wasted and taking drugs communally just isn't going to cut it, then.

One of the top things on both psychologists' joint agenda is to get the message across that students shouldn't try to cope with university without the necessary help, especially because of the important place which university holds in our lives.

THE PROBLEM

Pratt has been researching, for the majority of his professional career, the key developments that we undergo throughout our lifetimes. To him, university is one of the most impacting instances in a life-span.

"This is a big life transition; it's a huge moment in your life. A lot of things have changed. You've moved away from home, your relationships with people are changing, school becomes more challenging. This is the first time, for most, that people are alone."

Pratt works alongside Pancer in order to study the psychological significance of this time, as well as to find better ways for us to deal with such a key transition.

Above all, the psychologists have been surprised that their work hasn't been extensively repeated in the past.

"We were amazed that this hasn't been done before, in the same way," says Pratt. "When this has been done before [by other support groups], there tends to be more of a focus on academics. Our groups are

more focused on helping people to adjust through socializing."

Pratt focuses his argument on the fact that students already have a wealth of academic aid at their service; social help needs equal, if not more, attention. He willingly offers that academics is the reason why people come here, but it's important to keep in mind that people might not stay at university if they feel that they can't cope with the psychological side of things.

THE INTERVENTION

Both a research method as well as a way of actively providing a support group for new students, the two psychologists hold "intervention" sessions with volunteer students.

Volunteers are recruited through random mailings, as Pratt describes. "One-third of the incoming class received a letter, asking if they wanted to participate in a support-group orientated study. Of those letters, 10 percent to 15 percent produced volunteer participants."

Each session contains facilitating staff, one male and one female, who are there for traditional "ice-breaking" and to get the conversations started.

The groups are small, with sessions lasting 1.5 hours each. The first part of these sessions is the most informal, including open conversations with "everybody chipping in."

This is followed by a more structured second part, where conversation is focused upon a particular subject. There are nine or ten topics which are focused on throughout the entire intervention.

There are different session types, even including one focused on the act of balancing academics with social lives.

But Pratt reassures that it isn't all so boring: "We're not trying to do anything clinical, and our facilitators certainly aren't trained for that. We just try to give them guidance."

The key idea of the sessions is to make people feel more at home, when they're away from home. They deal with the problem of isolation that many students feel when coming to university.

"We try to get people to feel like they have a chance to tell people how they feel. It lets them know that what's happening to them is not so weird; everyone is going through the same thing," says Pratt.

Many of us probably come to realize this over time, but it's definitely useful to be able to learn of

our shared state of affairs between other students.

Pratt is consistently pleased with the results of their interventions. "Usually the feedback we get from people is they say: 'Oh man, I didn't realize everybody else felt like this too.'" Pratt adds that the groups, while not specifically labeled as 'support groups,' inevitably become a "self-help" aid to participants.

SOCIAL SUPPORT STUDY

The psychologists' research is based on work at Berkley University, which studied the transition into parenthood. But Pratt and Pancer found that this study could easily be translated into a wider field. "When anyone goes through such a transition, it destabilizes the way life has gone on before."

A key issue that Pratt and Pancer like to stress is that, besides social

support as a fantastic tool for settling in to a new lifestyle, it needs to be suitably researched if it has any chance of being implemented as an institution at university.

"What we've done differently than anyone else has been to turn this social support into a research study. We have groups that are volunteered: half of them are in the 'support' group, while the other half are the 'control group', who don't take part. We use random assign-

ment, equal explanation, we do in the group with port group in school port group changed altogether substantiated students Laurier, a



Support an university

Two Laurier academics' research in developmental psychology gives solid evidence that your fellow students can be more than just drinking buddies, objects of desire or robotic classmates; they can help us survive through the rest of university

tool for settling, it needs to be if it has any merit as an intervention. The research has been to turn to a research group that are volunteers in the other half of the study, who don't have random assign-

ment, equalizing all of the potential explanatory factors except for what we do in the study.

"When we compare the control group with the people in the support group, more people stayed in school at Laurier [in the support group]. Those who left either changed schools, or dropped out altogether. The difference was substantial: 25 to 30 percent of the students in the control group left Laurier, and only about seven per-

cent from the support group left Laurier."

The results shown above appear to provide the concrete evidence that social support is of great benefit to those who participate in it. Pratt and Pancer have been researching this area for over four years, discovering that, "People in the groups were happier, more enthusiastic and all of the other psychological stuff, but the best part was that they enjoyed it and they felt that it really

helped them."

This evidence isn't to say, however, that the pair of psychologists believe that dropping out of university is always the wrong path to take.

"We're not saying leaving Laurier, or any university, is a bad choice," offers Pratt. "But students can really benefit from thinking these things through. A support group lets people talk to other people. Two weeks after starting university you might be thinking 'Oh, I hate this,' and it's

easy to act impulsively."

Pratt and Pancer feel that many people ignore social support, unaware of the benefits it can provide: "A lot of people didn't volunteer, basically because they felt like they didn't need the 'help' or they just thought that they were too busy. We're probably not reaching some people who could benefit from it."

Both profs stress that social support should be there to help people make their own independent but well thought-out decisions concerning their academic future.

After all, university isn't for everyone. Many people drop out because they find that it just simply wasn't for them. As Pratt puts it, "Universities like to retain people; it's how we make our bread and butter. But some people figure out that they shouldn't be coming to university or they should have to go to a different one. That's fine, but we really want people to make an informed rather than impulsive decision."

GETTING INVOLVED

Above all things, Laurier has a reputation for spurring its students to get involved with the many clubs and organizations that are contained within its concentrated centre.

Pratt and Pancer have also researched the psychological side of the "get involved" ethic that appears so dominant at Laurier.

"Getting involved is a great thing; but not necessarily the perfect outlet for discussing and solving your problems in a 'self help' way," says Pancer.

Pratt finds that civic engagement learning at university can be a valuable tool for social networking. But not all clubs at university make it easier to talk to people and freely discuss problems. Clubs are there for students to concentrate on tasks; in many ways perhaps, they are a different coping method for descending into the social jungle of our campus.

"They need to find a network where they can talk about these issues," says Pratt. "They need to understand that they aren't the only ones going through this."

Pancer encourages students to get involved with clubs, but offers this advice: "The thing that's missing is they don't talk about their difficulties."

Both profs think that this is also the problem with O-Week.

"I think it's a lot to expect for Orientation to do everything," says Pancer. "Orientation week is good, but suddenly classes start and [the

students] are left hanging."

WHAT'S NEXT?

Pancer and Pratt both feel that social support should eventually become an institution at universities nationwide. Pratt enthusiastically puts forward that, "Our ambition would be to see this used widely (not necessarily our exact model), because people really need the support."

More than anything, both psychologists want to get the message across that students across Canada face the same important scenario when they come to university. "It's a normalizing function," says Pancer. "People need to know they're not the only ones going through this."

"One of the issues is that we only get volunteers," adds Pratt, "but there's still a lot more people who could benefit from it who wouldn't normally volunteer."

The profs hope to eventually team together again to follow students throughout the entire university life: doing a similar intervention study lasting three to four years.

A NEW STUDY

Both psychologists are beginning a new stage of 'interventions' as we speak, making comparisons between WLU and York universities.

Pratt and Pancer have assigned people into groups this week, with 30 people in the research group and 25 in the 'comparison' one.

"Whereas before we had about six groups, this year the intervention will not be as wide-scale at Laurier."

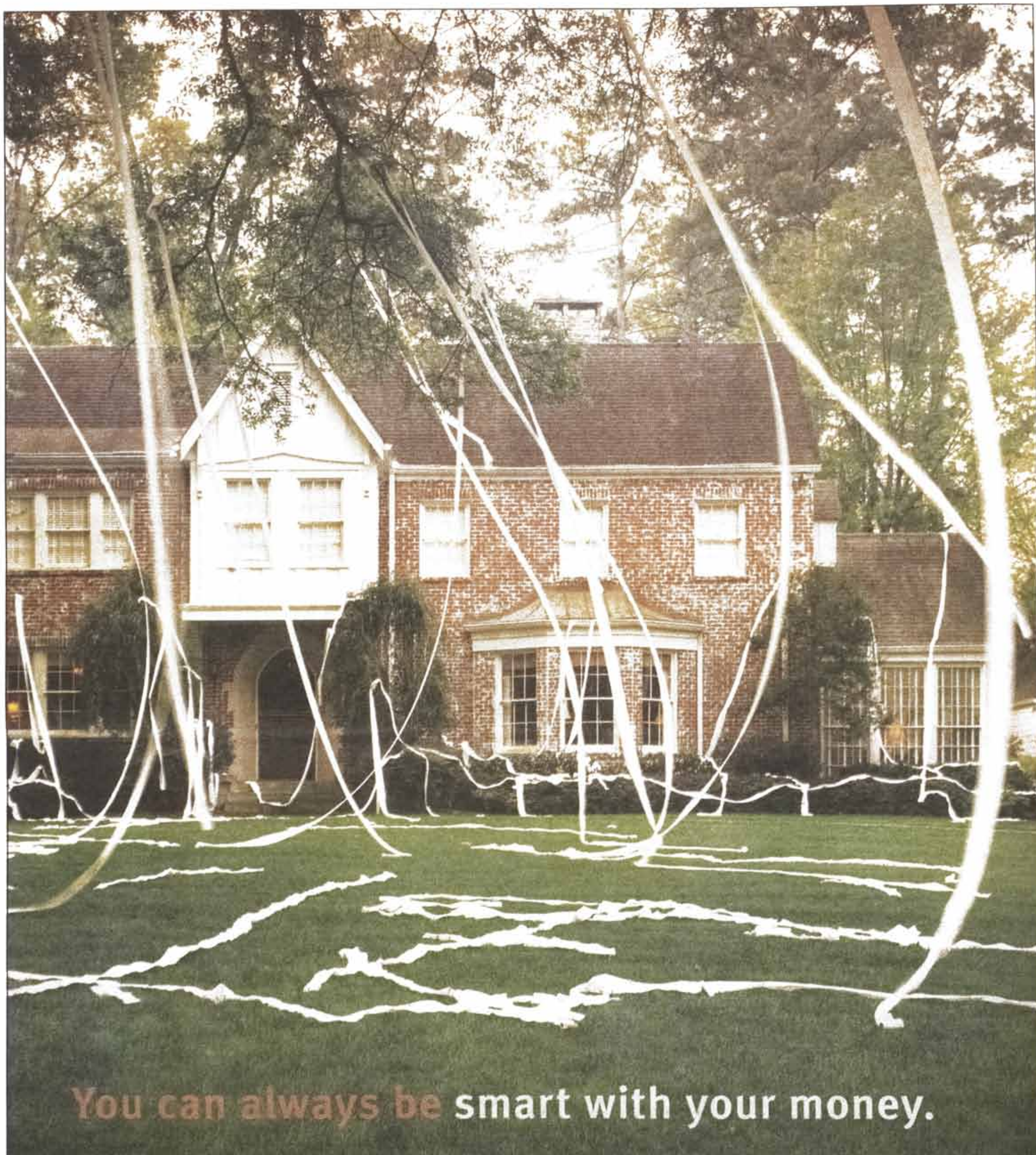
Instead, the focus will be a comparison to an intervention at York which will mirror Laurier. In the future, they hope to run their intervention program at Memorial, Newfoundland and Guelph universities.

Closing off the interview, Pratt and Pancer again wished to stress that while counseling services are regularly available to students, they often tend to miss the mark when it comes to what students truly need counseling in: "We aren't trying to be academic experts here. You can get that: counseling services, manuals, designed for people who aren't well prepared academically. That's helpful, but our perspective is the whole person."

"Academics are just a part of what's going on."



Graphic by Caitlin Symak



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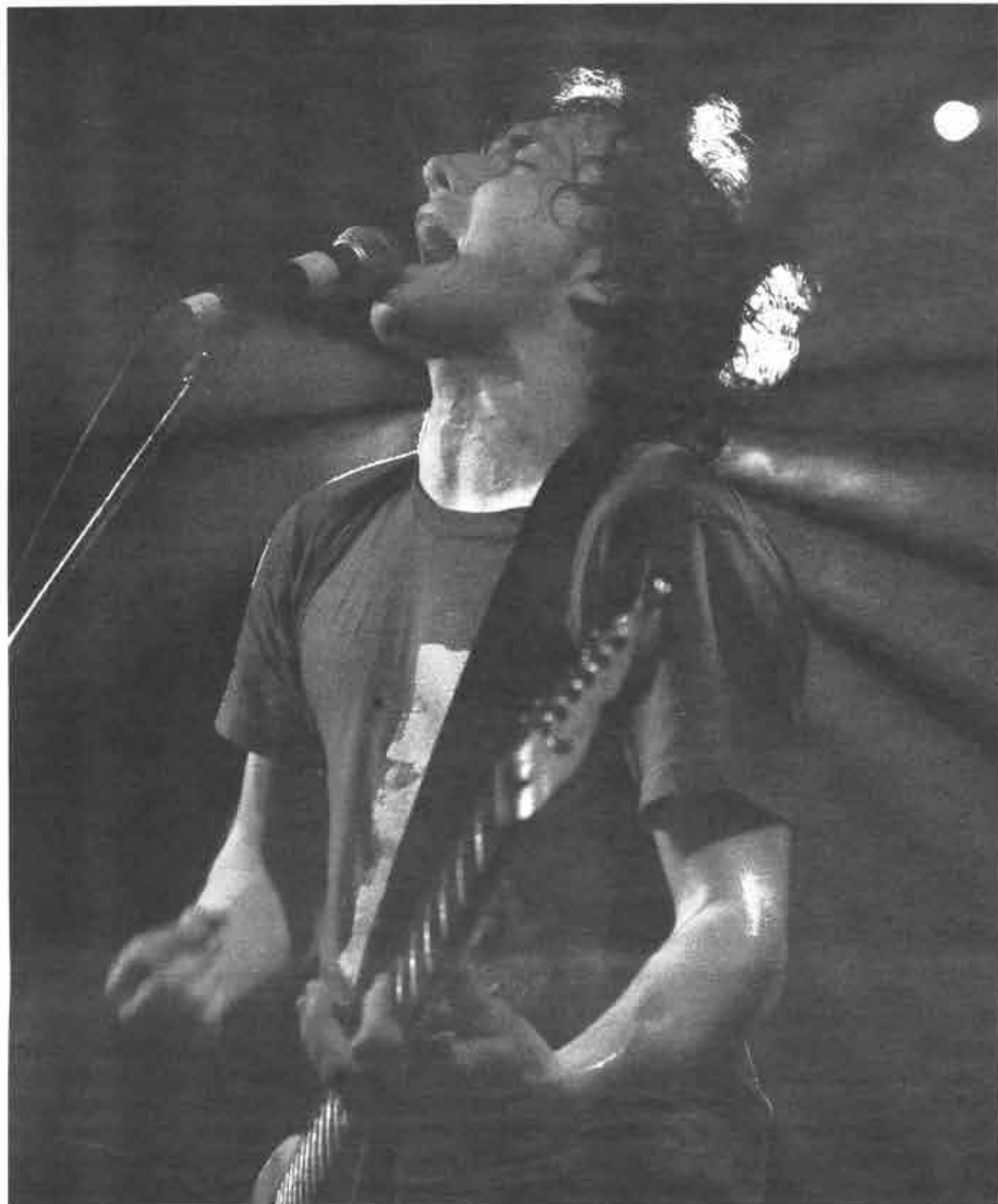
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Up-and-coming at O-Week

To the delights of the O-Week Frosh, three relatively unknown bands, The Reason, Moneen and Silverstein torch the Turret



EMO AT THE TURRET - Moneen lead-singer Kenny Bridges gives a divinely inspired performance at the A-Team's O-week concert.

SYDNEY HELLAND
PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

The level of anticipation in the Turret on Tuesday, September 5 was palpable.

The tension building for the night's O-Week Concert was growing and only increased with every first-year student who burst through the Turret doors, high-fiving their way through the line of welcoming Ice Breakers.

The excitement of the Frosh and their Breakers was easily apparent and was demonstrated by the many hollers of "wool!" and "yeeeah!" accompanying the pre-show sound checks.

The Reason was the first band to play for the many eager Frosh students, who, upon the band taking the stage, erupted with approval.

Hailing from Hamilton, The Reason started the concert with songs from their first full-length album *Ravenna* and ended their set with a preview of their record to come.

With Adam White on vocals, James Nelan and Jeremy Widerman on guitar, Ronson Armstrong on bass and Cam Bordingnon on drums, The Reason's aggressive poppy-punk sound started the concert off on the right note.

Moneen was up next, whose edgy and melodic rock was a definite crowd-pleaser. Playing most of their songs from *The Red Tree* album, Kenny Bridges (lead vocals and guitar) and his team of emo rockers could have done an encore, had time permitted it.

Last on the bill was Silverstein, who was obviously more impor-

tant than the other bands because they didn't set up their own instruments or sound equipment. Their performance inspired a great deal of head-banging and mosh-pitting, which I assume meant that the first-years were pleased.

The screamo continued on into the night, leaving frosh slightly deafen than when they arrived, but entertained nonetheless.

Needless to say the bands at the O-Week 06/07 concert put on a great show.

However, I still can't help but think about the calibre of artists who have played at O-Week in previous years.

Even though this year's bands have all graced the stages at Edgefest, Wakestock, the Warped Tour and other significant events, and have toured with bigger artists, namely Simple Plan and Alexisonfire, they still seem to be relatively unknown in comparison to the other O-Week concert acts of years gone by.

Sloan, Matthew Good, Treble Charger and last year's Finger Eleven are but a few examples of the other Canadian artists who have leant their musical talents to Laurier's humble frosh concerts.

But as I said, although The Reason, Moneen and Silverstein are slightly less famous than those bands who have played in previous years, they still managed to put on an impressive show for our newly minted WLU students.

If things keep going the way they are, I'm hoping that Laurier will see a little Hot Hot Heat or The Arcade Fire next year.

Dylan returns with another classic

For his 31st original studio album, the legendary folk-rocker returns to the music of yester-year to examine our *Modern Times*

JOE TURCOTTE
A&E EDITOR

The last time that Bob Dylan released an album of new material, the world was a different place.

When the 20th century's greatest singer-songwriter sent his last album, 2001's *Love and Theft*, to record stores, New York's Twin Towers were still standing, there was no war in Iraq and George W. Bush was perceived to be merely a bumbling buffoon.

However, by the time that *Love and Theft* was actually available to the general public our world had forever been altered.

To be more specific, the day that *Love and Theft* dropped the Twin Towers fell.

This simple yet cruel twist of fate has ensured one thing: that the man who was once perceived to be speaking for an entire generation has yet to chime in on the state of the new 21st century and all of its realities.

With the release of his newest work, *Modern Times*, Bob Dylan has finally broken his silence and sounded off on the state of the union and the rest of our world.

This is not to say that *Modern Times* is an album about geopolitics, Bush-bashing or political commentary.

In fact, Dylan's latest masterpiece is none of these. This album is not Neil Young's *Living With War*. While Dylan does make passing and veiled remarks that point out the absurdity of the world's political climate, none of this album's ten tracks are overtly political. Instead, *Modern Times* is an album that is concerned primarily about one of Dylan's most often discussed topics: love.

Modern Times opens with the rocking and rollicking "Thunder on the Mountain", which name-drops Alicia Keys, as Dylan and his band pound out a steady rock-a-billy-inspired beat. "Thunder on the Mountain" is the perfect

pace-setter for this album as, Dylan effortlessly transitions from talking about love ("I've been sitting down studying the art of love/I think it'll fit me like a glove") to making some obligatory political commentary ("Gonna raise me an army, some tough sons of bitches/I'll recruit my army from the orphanages" and "All the ladies of Washington scrambling to get out of town/Looks like something bad gonna happen, better roll your airplane down").

The discussion of love continues on during the nearly eight-minute opus "Spirit on the Water". Here Dylan's musical muse takes him on a journey that tenderly discusses love in its most beautiful form. However, in typical Dylan fashion, "Spirit on the Water" makes time to infuse a sense of bitterness about the elusiveness of such a beautiful form of love: "I wanna be with you in paradise/And it seems so unfair/I can't go back to paradise no more/I killed

a man back there."

Literally, *Modern Times* positions Dylan as a wise man who has been everywhere, seen it all and has, now getting older, found the time to share his thoughts about the world that he knows. Musically, *Modern Times* finds Dylan producing a textured piece of art, which incorporates drum-driven jazz ("Beyond the Horizon"), pianoish-blues ("Workingman Blues 2") and contemporary rock-a-billy ("Someday Baby") influences.

It is here, in the sonic landscape of *Modern Times*, that we find the irony that a new Dylan album inevitably brings. By using antiquated yet essential musical forms to discuss our modern times in a way that makes life feel eternal and unflinching, Dylan manages to create a musical masterpiece. While it has become a favourite pastime of music critics to either extol the virtues of Dylan or tear down his considerable legacy, both at times deservedly so, the

influence and talent that is Bob Dylan is undeniable. Even at the ripe old age of 65, Bob Dylan finds the time to use his genius to be contradictory and compelling.



Bob Dylan
Modern Times
Rating: 9.4 / 10
Original Release Date:
August 29, 2006
Label: Columbia Records
Recommendation: BUY IT



BROKEN OUT, FINALLY - *Prison Break*'s second season deals with life on the outside.

Contributed Photo

Fall TV preview

Escaped inmates, apocalyptic scenarios and teenage angst are the norm

LAURA CARLSON
CORD A&E

As the summer draws to a close and we are all forced to return to the world of classes, studying and papers, the art of procrastination is something that we students become quite good at.

So if you're in the need to study something other than a textbook but still want to avoid a hang-over, try tuning into some of these shows this fall.

Prison Break: Season 2 - Aired Mondays at 8pm ET (FOX)

Already in its third week of release *Prison Break* continues the hugely successful tale of the Scofield brothers and their motley crew of inmate buddies. They may have escaped from Fox River Penitentiary on last year's season finale, but Michael Scofield and his fellow convicts are far from being done plotting, scheming and outwitting the authorities who always seem to be hot on their heels.

With season two focusing on the nationwide manhunt for the most wanted men in the country, it promises to be just as thrilling, gut wrenching and shocking as

those episodes taking place before the great escape.

Friday Night Lights - Premieres Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 8pm ET (NBC)

This new series not only shares the same name as the 2004 Blockbuster film, but also features the same writer/director.

As the favourites to bring home the Texas State championship, the new head coach and his high school football players struggle through the pressures that are placed on them by a city of die-hard fans. As the characters and plots so closely resemble that of the film, it will be hard not to enjoy the show—as long as you liked the movie.

Jericho - Premieres Wednesday, Sept. 20 8pm ET (A Channel)

This new series, produced by CBS, explores the story of a young man who returns to his small Kansas home following years of being away. However, when nuclear bombs begin exploding across America, this once peaceful town is left in chaos, as the citizens must deal with the fear that they may be the only American city still in ex-

istence. While this series looks to continue the trend of dooms day TV that was reinvented by FOX's 24 viewers will tune in out of the sheer wonder of what actually happened on that dark day.

Also, viewers may become enamoured by the small town citizens and look to these characters to observe how a community can stick together and cope with such tragedy.

Laguna Beach - Season 3 airs on a heavy rotation (MTV Canada)

So the drama is not entirely real, regardless of what MTV may claim. But it's hard not to be completely addicted to *Laguna Beach*.

The setting is spectacular, the characters look like they just walked off an Abercrombie & Fitch photo shoot and everyone seems to have too much money and too little responsibility.

This season the cameras follow around a new group of high school students, which includes LC's (Lauren's, of seasons one and two) little sister. With MTV airing each episode at least three times a week and continually having marathons, it's actually quite difficult to miss this show.

Feminist vampires kick butt, really

Via the vehicle of supernatural fiction female authors are exploring new avenues for feminist development and critique

JESSICA PETER
CORD A&E

When I was younger, it always seemed to me that setting a story in a modern Canadian city was taking the easy way out.

Real novels, I thought, had to be set in New York, or London, or Los Angeles, or any number of other places. The storybook world being set here, so close to home, just rang wrong in nearly every novel I had read. Dispelling this notion from my thought process was one of the reasons I enjoyed Kelley Armstrong's novel *Broken* (April 2006) so much.

Armstrong, an author from Ontario, set her newest novel in Toronto. *Broken* managed to dispel all of my biases against settings in Canadian cities. It finally feels as though a novel can be both familiar and fiction all at the same time. What's more, *Broken* is one of the most believable books I have read in quite some time.

That's no small feat, considering the plot involves a pack of werewolves who accidentally open a portal to Victorian London and unleash Jack the Ripper.

But really, how can someone not believe in werewolves (and zombies and vampires and witches, oh my!), when the mythical creatures are romping through

the ROM and stopping for lunch in Kensington Market?

For *Broken*, Armstrong brings back Elena Michaels, the main character of the first two novels of the *Women of the Otherworld* series. Elena is the only female werewolf ever known to have existed, and her newfound pregnancy does not put a damper on her immense physical strength and strength of will.

Armstrong's writing is crisp and clear, and her characterization is impeccable. It avoids the extremes of dark and light reads, and somehow manages to sound like a very different voice within the realm of supernatural fiction.

The works of Kelley Armstrong follow a new and exciting trend that is emerging within the realm of supernatural fiction.

The protagonists are strong women. One can even imagine meeting and liking these women, despite their supernatural tendencies.

What is more, the novels hop back and forth between the barriers of different genres. But the *Women of the Otherworld* series is a fresh addition to the genre.

Armstrong's *Otherworld* series contains six books that follow the different adventures of six different female protagonists. Also, the

protagonists from the *Otherworld* series often make guest appearances in the other novels from the set.

Much like the *Otherworld* novels Laurell K. Hamilton offers up a supernatural tale of female empowerment. The *Anita Blake Vampire Hunter* series includes the works *Guilty Pleasures* to *Danse Macabre*. These books feature a tough-as-nails vampire executioner and zombie raiser Anita Blake, her crime solving and her (often-sordid) love life.

Whereas the Hamilton series is often harsh and unflinching, the *Southern Vampire* series of Charlaine Harris is a much lighter offering, featuring psychic cocktail waitress Sookie Stackhouse. Sookie's issues in (supernatural) life and love, which are chronicled in the novels *Dead Until Dark* and *Dead as Nails*, are not nearly as intense as those of Anita Blake—but are just as entertaining.

While all of these authors and their respective novels differ in style, tone and approach they are all linked by a common thread. Each of these authors has looked to the realm of supernatural fiction in order to present strong female protagonists, a much needed addition to the literary field.


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Supergroup in the making?

As the second season of *Rock Star* sets to finish this week another Canadian rocker is poised to win a shot at fame and fortune

NICK BOYD
STAFF WRITER

This week the stage will be set to find out who will be the first front-man (or woman) to take the mic for the rock supergroup known as Supernova. This title represents an explosion of stars. Pretty cheese, I know, but hey they had to go with something.

But it is a fitting title for a group consisting of Tommy Lee, the madman from Motley Crue, pounding the skins; the bass player that wasn't good enough for Metallica, Jason Newstead; and finally the Guns 'n' Roses guitarist, Gilby Clarke, we all forget about—probably because he wasn't even part of their original line-up.

And of course we all know this band will put out one record which if they're lucky will include two hit songs—and will inevitably go on one big-time tour to rake in a lot of money. But nothing much else can be expected of them in my eyes.

Heading into the grand finale show we have four rockers from all over the globe. First off, there is Dilanna, the little hellcat who could probably kick the asses of

dude and might be the pick of the band just because he'll attract the young ladies to the shows, which I'm damn sure the notorious woman hunter, Tommy, will love.

Finally, there's my pick to be the Supernova lead singer, Mr. Lukas Rossi. Having honed his skills in Toronto, Rossi is homegrown talent. Also, he's got that rock star image down pat, combining a solid stage presence, strong voice, and a fashion style that seems perfectly suited for the stages of rock.

Throughout the duration of this season the three members of Supernova have just loved Rossi and he is, in eyes, the only one that wouldn't look out of place in front of the three geriatric rockers that would be playing behind him.

This week's two-part finale should make for interesting television. And once completed the one question that will be on everybody's mind is whether or not this will truly be the greatest supergroup of all time. When compared against the supergroups of both past and present, such as CSNY, the Travelling Wilburys, Velvet Revolver and Audioslave, the competition is surely steep.

Of course, fronted by a relative unknown won't help put Supernova in the same category as bands that include Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Slash and Chris Cornell, respectively.

Yet with all of the media attention and fan interest that this NBC reality show has created, the band does have the hope of becoming a financial success.

So I guess the only thing that can be done, for both the viewer and the band members, is to just sit back and enjoy the ride—while it lasts.

When compared against the supergroups of both past and present: such as the Travelling Wilburys, Velvet Revolver and Audioslave, the competition is surely steep

everybody in Supernova.

We also have Magni in the final four, the man who appears to be representing the hopes of all of Iceland. While this bad-ass bald dude knows how to rock, he looks too generic and would seem out of place for this group.

Then there's the Aussie Toby, the ladies' choice for sure. He's a cool



Contributed Photo

CANADIAN TREASURE - For the second year in a row a Canuck is poised to become a *Rock Star*.

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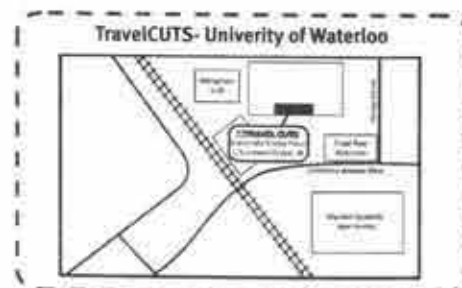
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Technological revolution

More control, more access: digital technologies have turned the record industry on its ear, as independent bands reach out to fans



JOE TURCOTTE
A&E EDITOR

In the September issue of *Wired* magazine an interview with the talented yet often aimless Beck is accompanied by a fascinating feature that describes the "Rebirth of Rock."

And although the magazine does not explicitly make the claim that technology is the main reason for the current renaissance found in popular music, one thing is certainly clear: the good folks at *Wired* feel that digital technologies have had more to do with "rock's rebirth" than has the music itself.

Now, before you dismiss this claim as a bold statement made by self-serving geeks trying to preserve technology as the solution to all of life's problems, we must delve deeper into the claim and unlock its hidden truths.

First off: the widely-held idea that the current resurgence found in popular music is far too simplistic.

It is naïve for one to assume that just because the mainstream mu-

sic of the past few years has been dominated by bland, cookie-cutter bands that all music in general has been tedious and boring.

It is much safer to assume that good quality music has been out there all this time and that it was only the case that music fans had no avenue to acquire and consume these works of art.

However, with the emergence of digital media as a bona-fide cultural force, it is only now that the general music-consuming public has the means of accessing this wealth of talent.

This important realization has forced me to admit, albeit grudgingly, that technology has helped to change the music industry as a whole.

Websites like *MySpace* and *Pitchfork* have helped to bring musicians and their fans together in a way that could not have been predicted or attempted prior to the rise of digital technologies.

By removing the middleman from the equation, these web sites have brought control of music out of the boardrooms of corporate America and into the hands of the fans and artists.

This democratization of the music industry has paid huge dividends for small, independent

acts. Rather than having to go through the proper channels of record labels, publishing companies and traditional radio, these small bands can now release their art to the public without any outside assistance.

Of course, while the Internet provides the perfect avenue for up-and-coming bands to get their music out, it also allows less talented musicians to due the same thing. But this can only help to further cultivate the soils of our musical landscapes, as musicians of all stripes are now afforded the possibility that their music will gain enough attention to fulfill a lifetime dream.

By utilizing only bandwidth and positive word of mouth (be it via blogs or actual real-world encounters), bands like The Arcade Fire and Gym Class Heroes have been able to carve out a niche of their own.

These sorts of *avant garde* bands, who resist the urge to conform to anyone musical category, do not have to 'sell-out' in order to gain mainstream attention. Now, these bands may stay true to their music and not try to fit within the confines of a marketing strategy.

Such a feat would have been much more difficult in the years gone by, as record labels often appear unwilling to take shots on genre-bending and unorthodox acts.

Perhaps it is the critical success of these indie darlings, and

many others, that makes us feel as though we are in the midst of rock's rebirth.

However, the truth is that similarly talented bands have always existed but were merely unable to gain enough exposure to develop a dedicated following.

Perhaps it is the critical success of these indie darlings that makes it feel as though we are in the midst of rock's rebirth.

While it may be true that digital technology has helped to make musical production practices bland and devoid of any real feeling—a claim that musicians like Neil Young and Bob Dylan have been making for years—going digital does not necessarily mean that music has lost its soul and vibe.

While digital technologies have moved the production of music from traditional studios, where feeling and ambiance reigned, to computer-based sampling programs, which are sterile, this transition has not been a total disaster.

Rather, it is much more appropriate to maintain that digital technologies have forced the music industry to return to its roots and regain its soul.

Instead of relying upon heart-

less and boring acts who merely look good enough to sell a couple million albums, the industry must come to terms with the changes that a democratized media landscape has created.

It is no longer the case that music fans must turn to the large

mainstream corporate conglomerates for a musical fix. Instead, the public needs only look to the Internet, where mp3s of bands (both good and bad) abound.

This simple fact means that the industry needs to look for quality bands who are both engaging and innovative enough to satisfy the discerning tastes of music fans.

Of course, the culture that corporate America operates in is resilient. Eventually the industry will adapt and figure out a way to bring the independent spirit in line.

But for now, the (perceived) musical renaissance will continue to grow stronger in proportion to the strength of the artistic visions held by those who are involved.

So sit back relax, and enjoy the ride. Who knows where the winds of change will take us next.

Media Matters is a monthly column that discusses the intersection and influences of media, culture and technology.

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			8	6	1			
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HOW TO PLAY: Fill in the blank squares so that each row/column and each block of nine includes the numbers 1 to 9.

We Line Up

BY CAITLIN SYMAK



At least your wallet's lighter...



Last Week's Answers

9	4	5	1	2	8	6	3	7
3	8	7	4	5	6	9	2	1
1	6	2	3	7	9	8	4	5
2	1	4	9	3	7	5	6	8
8	9	6	5	1	4	3	7	2
7	5	3	8	6	2	1	9	4
5	7	9	6	4	1	2	8	3
4	3	8	2	9	5	7	1	6
6	2	1	7	8	3	4	5	9

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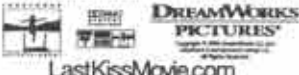
Complete the Syd-oku puzzle correctly. The first two to bring your answers to Angela in the Cord Office in the basement of Mac House will win symphony tickets.

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with Blythe Danner
and Tom Wilkinson
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What's yours?

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and co-writer of "Crash"

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PERSONALS

Props to Cord News

Congrats on another job well done this week, especially Mike and Tony. They are sexy bitches. Their writing makes my knees weak and I touch myself late at night as I read the news section. They use such big words which I hope is reflective of some of their physical characteristics.

Love Tony

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Not the '05 Hawks

An unbeaten season, a Yates Cup, and, finally, the Vanier.

The year that was 2005 certainly could not have been any sweeter for Wilfrid Laurier's football program, having completed their first championship campaign since 1991. It may have been so sweet that many would rather not believe that the fairy-tale would ever end.

Having finally been halted, though, this past Saturday by the Ottawa Gee-Gees 29-19 victory, it should be painfully obvious that this year's squad is not that team of seasoned veterans that led the squad, and the school, to glory last November.

Fourteen players in total are gone from this year's version of the Golden Hawks. The days of having Ryan Pyear hooking up with Joel Wright in the end zone for clutch touchdowns are but a distant memory. No longer will fans see Nick Cameron bulldoze through opposing defenders for huge gains on the ground.

Now enter Jamie Partington and Ryan Lynch as two of the main cogs in this year's offence. Thus far, Lynch has lived up to the hype, having averaged 113 yards rushing in the team's first two games. His teammate, however, has stumbled off the blocks.

Whether it is the combined number of sacks, fumbles, or interceptions, Partington has clearly proven that he is what he has been for the last four years: a backup quarterback.

Starting against a Guelph team that has been mediocre at best for many years, it took Laurier's man behind centre almost an entire game to start making accurate passes with his strong throwing arm and lead his team to a narrow victory.

In what was expected to be a "statement" game of sorts against one of the top teams in the country this year in Ottawa, it took until the last 36 seconds of the game for Partington to even throw a touchdown pass.

Possessing a very strong defence once again this year, one has to wonder how long the offence will have to suffer before a change is made for one of either sophomore Ben Wilsack or highly touted rookie Vince Luciani? As tough as it may be for new offensive coordinator, and former roommate, Ryan Pyear to make the call, it may need to be done soon to maintain a high standing. A standing that appears to be dropping on a weekly basis this year.

Better accounting needed

The recent RCMP arrests of former UW students, some of whom were members of WATSA, an on-campus club of Waterloo, have raised questions about the financial accounting of campus clubs at UW, and, additionally, at Laurier.

Since the arrests, UW has begun a formal review of the finances for the Waterloo Tamil Students' Association.

Though UW does have a system in place to monitor and regulate the finances of campus clubs, one of the arrested students was the former treasurer of WATSA, which creates an unlikely situation not covered by UW's policy.

WLUSU also has a financial monitoring process in place for their campus clubs, but as Dan Hocking points out, there are some failings in the monitoring of money collected from fundraisers. "They absolutely could use [fundraised money] for anything,

We do our best to have checks on them," explained Hocking.

If the recent trouble down the street is any indication, our "best" simply isn't good enough. With WLUSU insuring all of the campus clubs under their umbrella, they are ultimately liable should anything happen, like misdirecting club funds to a cause with questionable affiliations.

WLUSU needs to implement a system that thoroughly and accurately investigates club fundraising and spending, and needs to investigate all clubs fairly to avoid possible prejudice. While implementing such a system would be costly, it would be nowhere near the financial burden of being liable in a situation similar to that of UW's.

Afterall, WLUSU can't be expected to provide for the needs of students if its resources are tied-up in a multi-million dollar lawsuit.



Emilie Joslin

“Why don't they just leave?”

Instead of using The Code of Conduct to police, a “Moral Code” should be instilled in students to ensure respect is shown to neighbours and city

MICHELLE PINCHEV
SPECIAL PROJECTS EDITOR

Last week a Waterloo resident was woken up in the middle of the night by three girls dragging a toilet down Regina Street. One can only imagine the racket made by the porcelain plumbing fixture scraping against cement and asphalt.

At some point during their covert operation, the toilet broke. This caused more commotion, possibly yelling and hysterical laughter followed by an abrupt stop to their mission. The girls fled, leaving broken, stinking pieces of toilet shattered on the ground.

This is just one example of drunken university stupidity that the permanent residents of this city have to deal with.

Clearly, this is an extreme example and not something that happens regularly. If every Saturday night in Waterloo saw students moving their toilets across town something would be done about it – because that would be unacceptable.

But it is difficult to lay the line that separates the unacceptable from the to-be-expected for a university town. It is a question that I'm sure the university asks when trying to set standards and enforce the student code of conduct. It is something the residents grapple with when feeling torn between calling the police so they can sleep versus not wanting to spoil students' fun. And maybe even we the students, as we cheer, sing and break toilets

in the street, stop every now and then to ask ourselves if we are crossing the line.

Many students are completely unsympathetic to any complaints from permanent residents and you will often hear people say things like, “if they don't like the noise, why don't they just leave?” pointing out how stupid anyone is to live in a university community.

My neighbours, a World War II veteran and his wife, have lived in their home since returning from battle. When they moved in, my street was field and trees. Why should they leave? Many of the problems that residents in the Laurier community have to deal with have only surfaced fairly recently. It is unreasonable to say that people should just “pick up and leave” their homes.

As for what is acceptable, I would say it is to be expected that certain periods of time like the first and last weeks of school are inevitably going to be loud and chaotic. But certain residents have it worse than others, dealing with chronic cases of regular parties, garbage, trampling of their lawns and disruptive noise. Even students don't want to put up with that.

I think of the school as a factory... an educated people-making factory. Just as we would wish for any corporation to be responsible about its location and the effect it has on the culture and environment around it, Laurier needs to be responsible for the pollution it spouts out into the community, be it noise, violence or pieces of toilet. Allegedly, we have a code of conduct, but it doesn't seem to apply to everyday nuisances.

The school has many opportu-

nities and channels with which to communicate with students, such as O-Week, mass e-mails, the school website or even this newspaper. Laurier can take advantage of these mediums to introduce students to the city, the community and our respective neighbourhoods. They can have residents and city representatives communicate directly with us about the impact we have on them and make us aware of their presence. But as far as I have seen, this hasn't happened yet.

Ice Breakers give us our first orientation of the school and city. While they do a great job, they fail to deliver a message of respecting our community. Instead of being told about Waterloo's noise by-laws for instance, as soon as we get to school we're encouraged to make as much noise as possible.

Just like school spirit can be raised and spread from student to student, so can a spirit of maturity and respect. Yet it seems like the school wipes its hands clean of the problems that occur after school hours when, long after administration and staff have driven home to their own communities, the students are left to wreak havoc on this one.

Hiring some more security guards could take some of the pressure off city police and by-law officers who have enough on their plates as it is. However, that is just a short-term solution. I am not particularly in favour of the university policing students and essentially holding our hands like a surrogate mother.

It is not the code of conduct that needs to be enforced, but rather a moral code to be instilled in students.

letters@cordweekly.com

Books are worth more than their resale value

Students and academic institutions should be weary before pawning their old books for cash; the knowledge gained can be invaluable



DON MORGENSON
ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE

Rummaging through a box of books on a table outside a used book store, I came upon a book I thought strange to find among the discarded. The book was James Boswell's *Life of Samuel Johnson*; surely an essential volume for any library. This book, however, bore a blue-inked stamp on the title page showing that it was once housed in a high school library.

Surely any high school or, for that matter, university library that gets rid of such a marvelous book deserves to lose its reputation as well as its accreditation. I think of this incident in the spring when I notice what books students sell back to the university bookstore, books thought no longer needed or valued. Selling back books is surely a sign of intellectual failure (or perhaps student poverty) on the part of students selling such books. Of course, a worthless book should be sold, but the trick is in knowing the difference between a book to be kept and a book to be recycled.

Samuel Johnson recommended that we have about us plenty of books on many and varied subjects. We must have our own basic libraries, those books we own because we ourselves have found,

purchased and enjoyed them.

Merely owning books, however, is obviously not enough. Fools can and do own large libraries. And the corollary is that knowledge alone will not save us, though obviously we need that. The Devil, you may remember, was one of the most intelligent of all the angels.

What must be acknowledged is the urge or inclination to know and that can neither be purchased nor borrowed. We can, for instance, tell ourselves we will read *The Brothers Karamazov* during Christmas vacation and then do it. But it is best to have an inherent and eager desire for instruction, something intrinsic flowing from our own inner resources, not just from external obligations.

If you read the first paragraph of Dostoevsky's great novel and have any soul at all, you will not rest until you finish the entire book. And then reread it. C.S. Lewis once wrote, "If you have read a great book only once, you have not read it at all."

We who are teachers and learners, formal and informal, urge that we all must discover in our own souls this longing to know. It constitutes the very heart of who we are as rational beings, distinct and unique in this cosmos because we can and want to know. If this desire is not there, it is undoubtedly because we have not ordered ourselves or put our interests aside long enough to wonder about things - wonder about

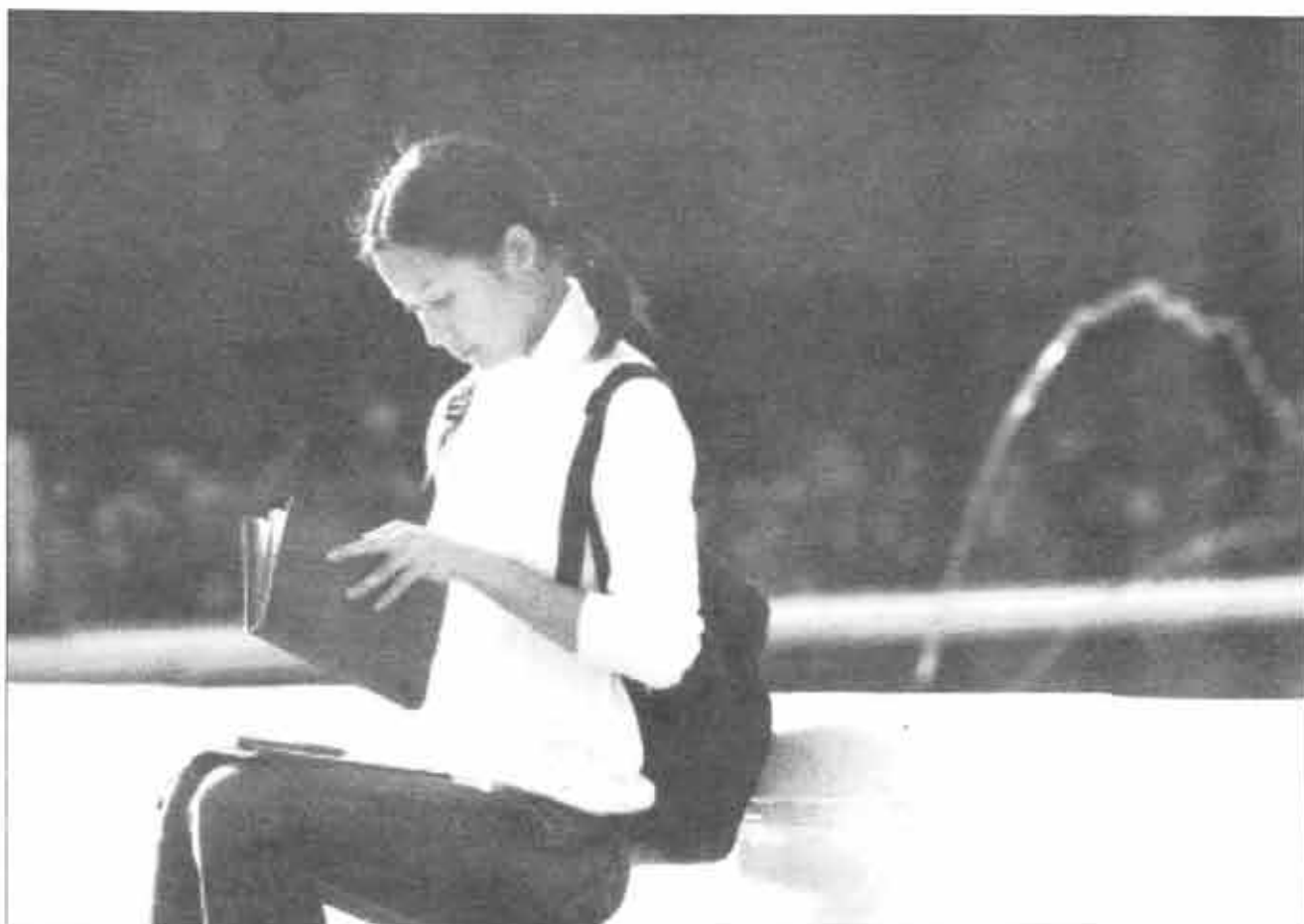


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GETTING HER LEARN ON - This young student is enjoying a leisurely afternoon reading her novel outside, an occurrence that's far too rare according to Professor Don Morgenson.

other things "for their own sake," as Aristotle put it.

Of course, some things are more fascinating than others, but in principle, all things, no matter how insignificant they may appear, are worth knowing. G.K. Chesterton once said there is no such thing as an uninteresting subject only uninterested people. Our minds have what the ancients called a "capax omnium" -- a capacity to know all things.

And it is through knowing what is not ourselves that we can come to realize reflexively our own selves and see more clearly our own existence and its activities. The adventure of knowing is the path to the adventure of being, to the being of all things.

Critic Terry Teachout recently crowed in the *Wall Street Journal*: "Fifty-five percent of us spend less than 30 minutes reading anything at all." And the reason he gives: "The novel is an obsolete artistic technology."

Notwithstanding such strident and poorly informed voices, I am assuming books will endure, even in our electronic, paperless world. I know how valuable the internet and on-line materials can be, however, reading a book, rereading a book, possessing a book,

surrounding oneself with books, will remain fundamental to learning, particularly learning the highest things.

Dr. Shelby Foote, the great American Civil War historian said in an interview that he could only work surrounded by his own books, and in his own home. He argued that when planning for our new homes, we provide adequate space for books, our books, books we have obtained, read, marked, taken notes from and penned wonderful marginalia. Foote also said that nothing is more disconcerting than entering a home or an apartment in which there are no books, no place for books, no sign a book had ever been there.

The important thing about a book, however, is to know what it says. It is a living path to an author who is not here, who may, in fact, have lived centuries before we did, but who can still reach us and teach us. So when St. Paul said, "Pray ceaselessly," I might add, "Read ceaselessly."

Writer William Gass recently wrote (*Harper's Magazine*): "Unlike the love we've made or meals we've eaten, books congregate to form a record around us of what they've fed our brains."

In reading, we are accepting

Johnson's emphasis on the "eager desire for instruction." And Aristotle told us (*Metaphysics*) that what incites us to know is simply wonder - not fear, not pleasure, not lack of something. We just want to know. When we have all else, we still will want to know. This is the simple truth about all human beings.

So we surround ourselves with books chiefly because we are curious about reality. This is so because the universe, which we look at, wonder about and wonder who we are in it, is potentially our knowledge. In knowing, we become the other; we become what we are not, as Thomas Aquinas taught. But in doing so, in coming to know, we do not change what we are.

Tell me what you read and I will tell you who you are. In any intellectual life, the books we have around us do not just indicate where we started and where we might end, but how we got there and why we did not go somewhere else. Books help us learn so much about ourselves and others. As Thomas Carlyle said, "A good book is the purest essence of a human soul."

letters@cordweekly.com

Letters to the Editor

Thou shalt not judge

Andrea Battista's piece named "Scientology: Aliens predict happiness" (*The Cord*, September 4, 2006) takes a so-called "new age religion" to task in order to question the credibility of Christianity. However, I would like to point out that neither the Scientologist nor the Christian will be much moved by her remarks. Her final paragraph opens with a very unfortunate and abusive judgment and a haughty certainty: "One must wonder how so many people have been brainwashed into believing in something with absolutely no basis for truth." Public disrespect for another person's views and name calling ("brainwashed") I must caution is not in line with Laurier's attempt to honour multi-faith and diversity

across the campus. Leaving aside for the moment any particular merits that Scientology might or might not have, the suggested inference that Christianity has "absolutely no basis for truth" seems to betray Andrea's deep rooted faith in secularism and be an explanation for her rather glib and demeaning reference to the God who created her ("dude in the sky" and "bearded son"). We can also do without that kind of language in our journalism in these very sensitive times. I enjoyed Andrea's spunk and her writing and to her credit, she got me started.

-Graham E. Morbey, Chaplain

Where is the Accountability?

This letter to the editor is in response

to the September 4, 2006 article entitled, "Alumni Field too small for lacrosse." What a terrible oversight by someone here at Laurier that the new Alumni Field is too small for the lacrosse team to use. Although it is regulation size for a soccer pitch, it was intended to be big enough so that multiple teams could use it, particularly the lacrosse team. I do not disagree that the improvement to the field has made the WLU campus more attractive, that it will bring more exposure to the varsity soccer teams, or that it will benefit students and the intramural programs; those are all positive things. My contention is that the person or persons involved in this project made a mistake by constructing the field too small and should acknowledge their

mistake. It seems foolish to me that upgrades could be done next year to accommodate a lacrosse field. I highly doubt that would happen since anymore upgrades would reduce the number of parking spaces on campus even more. For a total cost of \$1.9 million it seems as though this endeavour should have been completed properly the first time. Of that amount, \$500,000 was contributed by the Students' Union who receives a considerable chunk of its money directly from students. So my question is: where is the accountability? In particular, accountability to the WLU students who have to pay their WLUSU fees to the tune of approximately \$700 each year. To be fair to all students, let's have someone come forward, wipe the

egg off their face, acknowledge their mistake, and stand accountable to the students for a blatant oversight with construction of Alumni Field.

-David Jenkins

Letters Policy:

All letters to the editor must be signed and submitted with the author's name, student identification number, and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00 pm Monday via email to letters@cordweekly.com or through our website at www.cordweekly.com. Letters must not exceed 350 words. The Cord reserves the right to edit any letter for brevity and clarity. Spelling and grammar will be corrected. The Cord reserves the right to reject any letter, in whole or in part.

The Cord reserves the right to not publish material that is deemed to be libelous or in contravention with the Cord's Code of Ethics or journalistic standards.

Students are busy and can't cope

Undergrads can't realistically be expected to finish all of their academic assignments, yet university rewards working to the point of exhaustion



APRIL ROBINSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I'm tired. And not just sleepy-tired. It's so-tired-I-need-cafeine-to-function tired. The worst part is, it's only the second week of September. Isn't the proverbial burnout supposed to set in about mid-November?

It's true that I've been working hard all summer with two jobs and a wedding on my plate. But now that things have fizzled down a bit, there still seems to be more work to do in a day than is humanly possible.

It is frustrating to end every day with unfinished business, both in my personal and professional/educational realms. And yet my head continues to hit the pillow each night with increasing speed.

It may be a combination of

things causing me to feel this way. But it doesn't help that our society rewards working to the point of exhaustion.

Consider your university career. Most students take five courses per term, which are loaded with enough reading, writing, assignments, and possibly labs and tutorials to keep you busy at least 40 hours per week. It's a full time job, no matter who you ask.

Perhaps during the first week of classes it seems like a piece of cake, but give it a month and you will find your head spinning.

I remember calling home in tears one day in second year, because I could not realistically see myself "catching up" before exams. Even my blue-collar father said, "Don't they say it's impossible to finish everything they give you to do in university?"

But it's somewhat true. Sometimes I wonder if professors think we are reading machines.

The reality is, only a small

portion of students actually get through the requirements outlined in course syllabi.

And yet, it seems that in the ever-increasingly competitive job market – co-op students learn this really quickly – HR personnel say your degree is not enough.

You need something that sets you apart from your fellow university graduates. And there are more and more of us all the time, according to Statistics Canada. In 2003-04 there were nearly one million students enrolled in university in Canada, an increase of 20.4 per cent since 1997-98.

So in order to be attractive to prospective employers – or to graduate schools – upon graduation, we're told we must spend our free time at worthwhile part-time jobs, volunteering in the community and within student organizations.

And while these extra-curriculars often become the most enriching experiences of our univer-

sity days, when you pile another 20 to 40 hours on top of the existing full-time student's schedule, plus a burgeoning social life, it's a recipe for burnout.

So we find ourselves pushing through university with caffeinated aids and odd sleeping schedules, with the hope that once we graduate and enter the "real world" we'll finally shake off the under-eye bags and at least a little stress. Right?

Wrong. In a recent conversation with some former colleagues at Research In Motion, the Waterloo-based company that makes the BlackBerry handheld, it surprised me to hear how chained so many young professionals are to their work.

Due to RIM's exponential global growth, the young managers are often forced to work odd hours from 7:00 am conference calls right through till 9:00 pm. And with meetings all day, they find themselves answering e-mails and writing reports during their free time at home.

My former manager said something as simple as a haircut was impossible to schedule during the work week, because she could never guarantee when she could leave the office everyday. Another woman said her work was making her feel perpetually grouchy, and she hated to feel that way.

It was a common thread within the group that there was just too much work to get done in one day. And no matter how late they stayed, there was always more.

The BlackBerry doesn't help either. With the ability to reply to emails instantly, no matter where you are, many RIM employees essentially work non-stop. Not exactly a healthy work-life balance.

We live in a society of workaholics. And while the term "workaholic" is defined by Wikipedia as a person addicted to work, finding it "burdensome or troubling," our university and work communities love to reward this behaviour.

At this rate, our generation will grow into a fatigued, stressed-out mess. Although we love to work, or at least, we're told we should love to work, we should redirect our path before health problems set in.

According to the CBC, stress can contribute to a plethora of health issues, including diabetes, osteoporosis and heart disease.

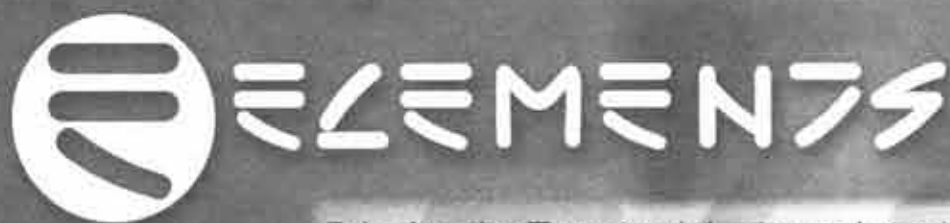
The societal workaholic syndrome will not be easy to fix. Especially since our grades and our futures depend on it.

But perhaps we should all take a moment to recognize that the number of things that get done in a day, or the number of clubs or activities we're involved in, does not determine our personal success or worth.

We shouldn't be afraid to turn down a job, project or even to take less than five courses. It's quality, not quantity.

Because who wants to live life as a burnout.

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Students are busy so they should slack off

When overburdened with academic commitments and social and volunteer activities, opt for the fun events instead of always stressing out about school



BLAIR FORSYTH-STARK
OPINION EDITOR

Happy New Year! Ok, so it's not January first and you aren't drunkenly attempting a midnight kiss, but it is the New Year – the Students' New Year, that is. And, like its January counterpart, the Students' New Year also encourages participants to make "resolutions" or set goals for the coming year.

Most students make resolutions in some form or another, usually saying to themselves, "This year, I will stay on top of all my readings," or "I'm going to go to every 8:30 am class." Most students then fail miserably at keeping these resolutions.

On a night dedicated to reading three chapters, a "Pimp 'n' Ho" kegger suddenly arises that you must attend. A volunteer commitment keeps you up late at night, so when your alarm sounds off at 8 a.m. you bypass snooze and just turn it off. After all, you'll go to every class after this one. Whatever the reason, inevitably your "non-academic" commitments keep you from meeting all of your academic goals.

While you may think that maybe you just suck at life and have no drive or focus, the truth is, well, school doesn't matter... that much. Sure, that piece of paper you receive at the end of it all is worth something (namely \$25,000 and counting) and classes will likely teach you new and interesting information, but when every-

thing is said and done, the time and energy spent in class is just as important as the time spent out of it.

As Professor Peter Taylor from Queen's University indicated to *Maclean's* magazine this week, "Bright can mean a lot of things. Highly creative students can't always perform in high-pressure situations," such as tests and exams. If you're the type of student that just doesn't excel in class, there's no need to fret.

Most students make resolutions in some form or another. Most students then fail miserably at keeping those resolutions.

When an employer is looking over your resume and sees your degree, they may ask about a class or two, but they don't care what mark you received in Psych 100. They care about what knowledge you gained from your overall university experience. The "real world" doesn't give a damn that you completed ten "mini-assignments" worth two-point-five percent, or that you wrote an essay on postmodernism. What matters is the organizational thought structure that you gained and the ability to think critically.

Likewise, while attending a kegger may not seem beneficial to your future career endeavours, the social skills you gain by chatting with friends and meeting their buddies will help you network your way to the top when it's really important, like at a confer-

ence for work.

Additionally, many of the volunteer opportunities at Laurier can provide a wide-range of transferable skills as well as hone in your social skills. The dedication and energy that goes into being an Ice Breaker is unmatched by any academic assignment and the creative thinking required to put together an exhaustive scavenger hunt list for Winter Carnival rarely surfaces in the classroom.

To be clear, all students should attend class and try to do their readings. Aside from the fact that you're paying to take these classes, a lot of them produce useful information, fun facts, or pose questions that you would have never considered.

However, stressing yourself out, cutting off your social life, and becoming a slave to your studies, all in the name of getting a good grade, will invariably cause more harm than good. In fact, according to *Maclean's*, Taylor "laments the fact that today's student is so focused on grades."

In celebration of this new year, set some goals if you wish, and try to achieve them if you please, but if, like the rest of the student population, you fail miserably, don't stress. All of your extra-curriculars that prevent you from excelling in school are helping you to excel as a person.

And if your grades plummet, just remember: "C's get degrees."

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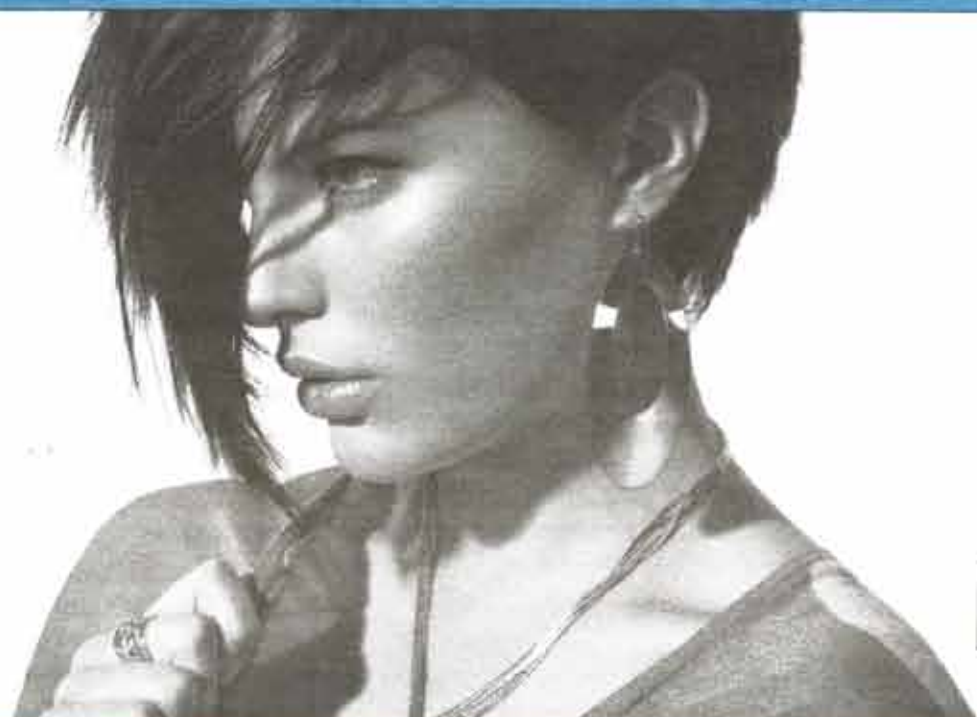
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Crowded res a burden

With five students crammed into three-person accommodations, the experience of students inevitably suffers in residence and in school



VERONICA HUGHES
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

After a full week and a half to settle into residence, one observation must be made. How will they fit all of us in here?!

From the small, jail cell-esque single rooms to the crammed Laurier Place apartments, residence might not be the picture you were envisioning prior to move-in day.

I can certainly say the pictures on the website did not even come close to illustrating how I would be living my first year of university.

My move in day was filled with the usual assortment of nerves, excited parents and roommate mix-ups.

I lived in an apartment style accommodation in Laurier Place four years ago, during the double cohort crunch when residence space was at a premium.

I lived with four other girls, while the apartment traditionally only held three students. I was

under the impression three per apartment was still the case, but was shocked when I found out five girls would be sharing one washroom.

I knew if any of these girls were like my sister and the bathroom, I was screwed.

The fun, naturally, didn't stop there. My roommate, who'd I assumed was aware we were sharing a room, was actually told she had a single.

And there was not a single room available on campus. She'd have to stay put for the time being. I thought this was such a fluke administrative error.

Oh how I was, yet again, mistaken. I have since learned that nothing at Laurier can ever be done on time, on budget or remotely to plan.

Over the summer when I learned Laurier Place would go back to its five and four person apartment layouts my heart went out to the new residents.

As a former St. Clements West-er, I can completely empathize with the challenges the new residents will face living in buildings

not meant for almost one hundred people, or designed to withstand the yearly thrashing from students.

The total lack of privacy, the appliance breakdowns, the heat in September and April, the cold the rest of the year and the frustration

Filling Laurier Place not only affects the quality of residence offered, but also the overall quality of education and the reputation of other departments, from academics to athletics, suffers.

of just having too many people around at all times is draining.

First-year is hard enough without the stress of an unstable environment.

Filling Laurier Place not only affects the quality of residence offered, but also the overall quality of education.

When the school does not provide top quality residences across

the board, the reputation of other departments, from academics to athletics, suffers.

From my floor alone, four students left in the first two weeks simply because they could not handle the overloaded environment.

And I am not referring to a typical residence situation, but surroundings where you barely have a quiet corner to call your own, in an old building you're paying over \$5000 a year to live in.

To ease these residence crunches, Laurier has two options. One is to cut back first year enrolment so there are enough residence and classroom spaces for all who accept WLU.

I am well aware this does not give the administration the tuition or residence funds it so greatly desires, as well as fails to move Laurier further into the comprehensive university category.

However, what it does accomplish is a less congested campus, with enough resources for all first-year students.

The other option is to continue building residences and expand-

ing resources outside the two block bubble.

If the administration is so determined to continue increasing enrolment, we cannot continue to do so on the basis of our current campus structure.

The Dr. Alvin Woods (DAWB) renovation and Northdale Campus are part of the solution, but are still a few years in the making.

At this point, no more residence buildings are in the works, which means overcrowded Laurier Place (LP) will most likely be used again next year.

Laurier also needs another apartment style residence. The current set up will not last much longer.

Abusing LP will only serve to diminish Laurier's reputation as a quality post-secondary institution.

Today, I can look back on my time in Laurier Place as part of the first year experience, but I think Laurier could have more effectively planned acceptance and residence numbers given the five years they had to prepare for the double cohort.

For this year's LP class, all I can say is if Laurier is like anything else: it is what you make of it.

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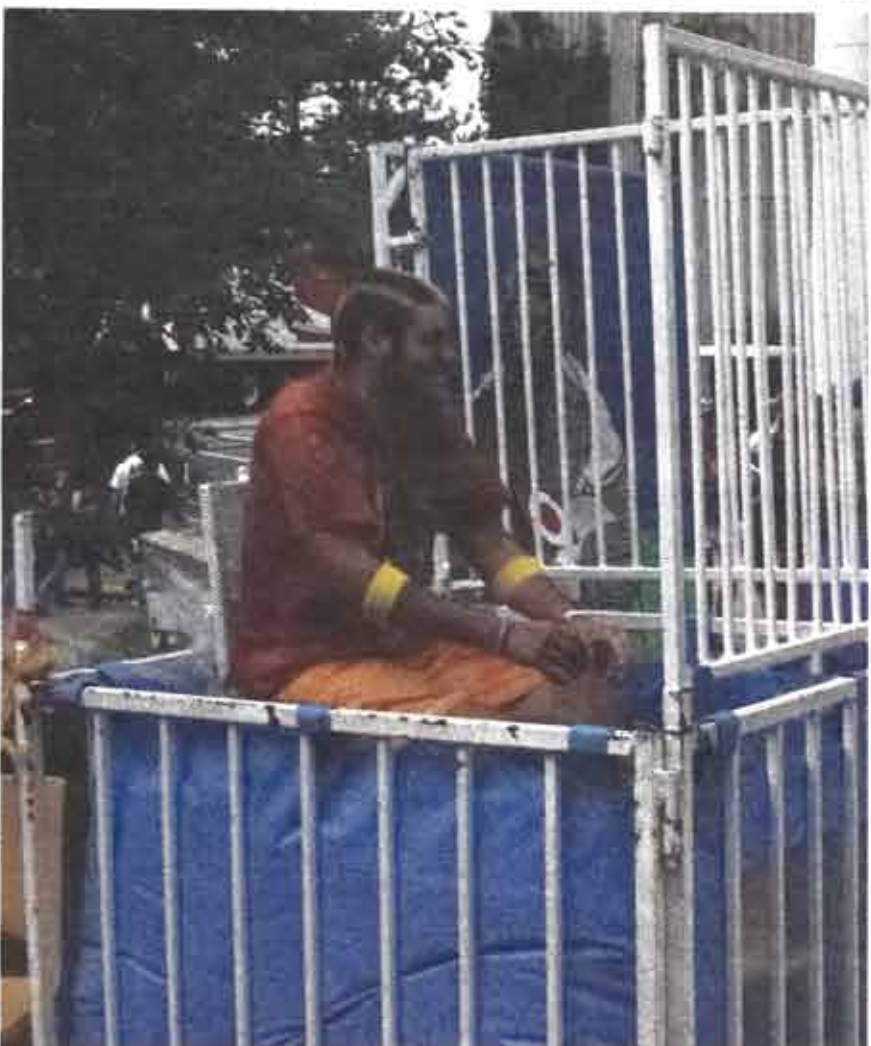
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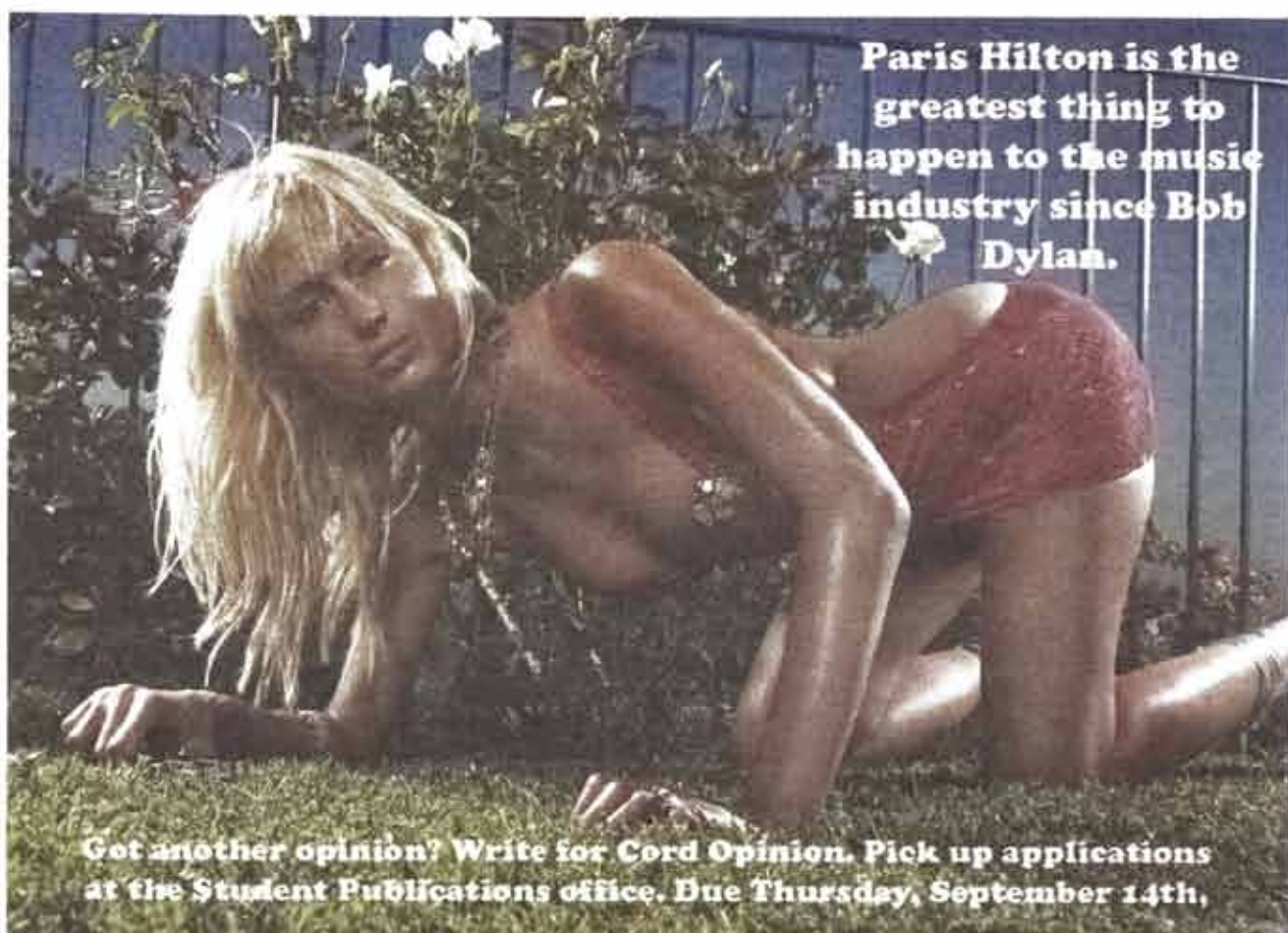
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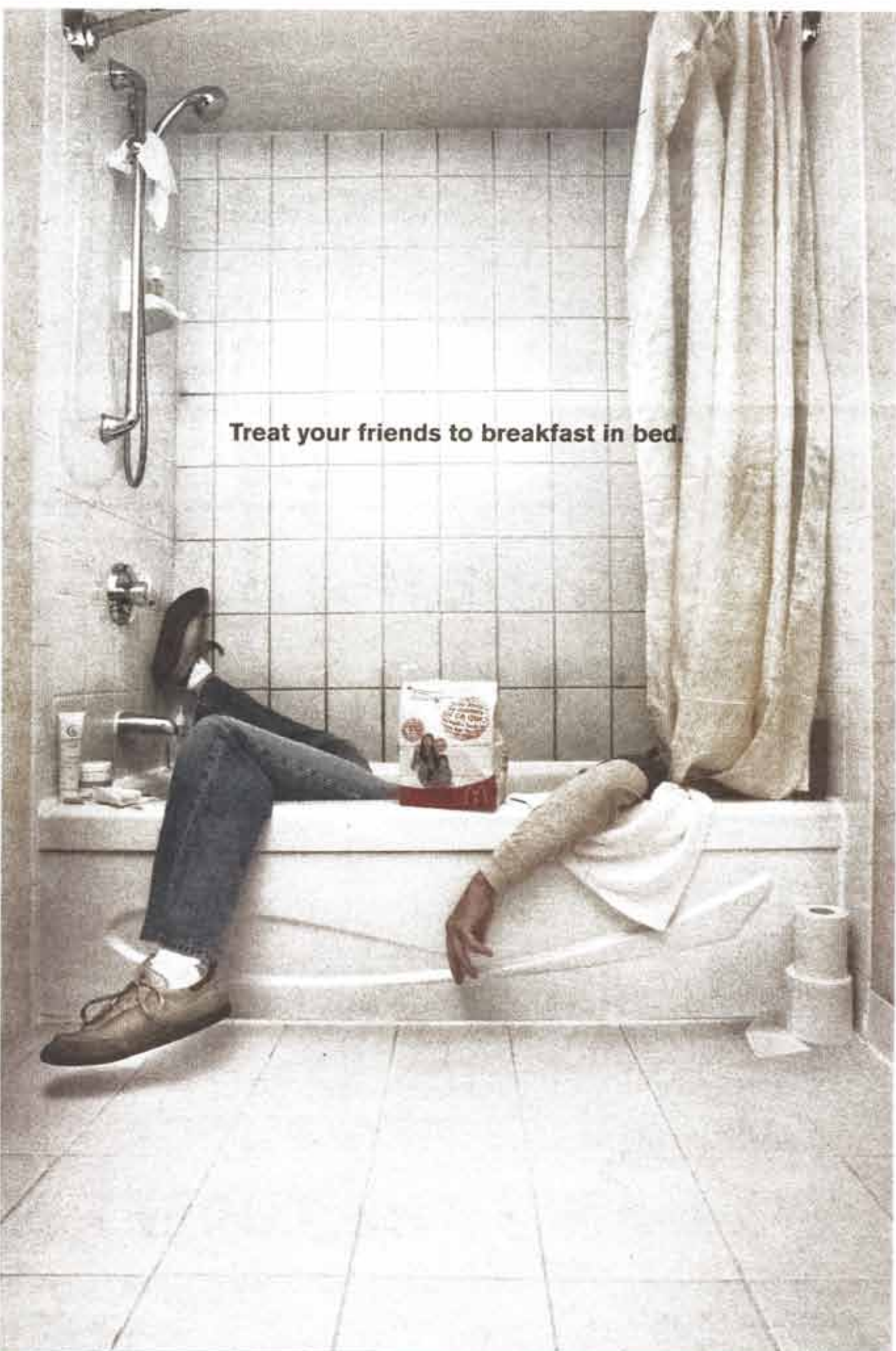


ICE GOLD WATER: Gold Head Ice Poly Polydorou takes a plunge to raise money for Shinerama. Comparing O-Week to a kid's carnival would be like beating a dead horse... but for nostalgia's sake, let's bring out the bats.



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